Kadokawa Comics A

東京ESP 3

Hajime Segawa

東京ESP③

瀬川はじめ

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KCA160-17
角川書店

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"空を泳ぐ魚"との接触により、
禁じある能力を覚醒させる、
一方、宮太郎は高峰・赤宝寺との
再会で心が揺れていた
"教授"とある男の指摘、東京上空に
突如現れた"空飛ぶタンカー"
リンの次に与えられし"新しなる試練"とは…!?
超弩級サイキックアクション、激動の第3巻!!

STORY 3

イラスト　瀬川はじめ
デザイン　高木 聡＋ベイブリッジスタジオ

毎月ストーリーに合わせて
取材に出かけます。
前回は東下通り商店街でしまう場所も。
行ってみると色々な発見があって
楽しいです。
前内ではまれたわりに知らない所も多いし。
面白い構造の建物を見ると、
「あ～ここでバトルをせてみたいな～」と
つい考えますが、そこれもやっぱり
なかなか実際き活かしきれないのが
ツライとこです。
そして万内皆様なのも毎月の悩みです…。

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Hajime Segawa Illustration

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放課後サイキックアクション、激動の第3巻!!

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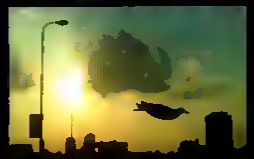
Hajime Segawa illustration



毎月ストーリーに合わせて
取材に出かけます。
普段は車で通り過ぎてしまう場所も、
行ってみると色々な発見があって
楽しいです。
都内で生まれたわりに知らない所も多いし、
面白い構造の建物を見ると、
「あ～ここでバトルさせてみたいな～」と
つい考えますが、すぐ忘れちゃうので
なかなか発見を活かしきれないのが
ツライとこです。
そして方向音痴なのも毎月の悩みです。

東京ESP 3

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Hajime Segawa Presents

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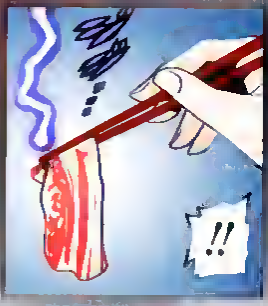
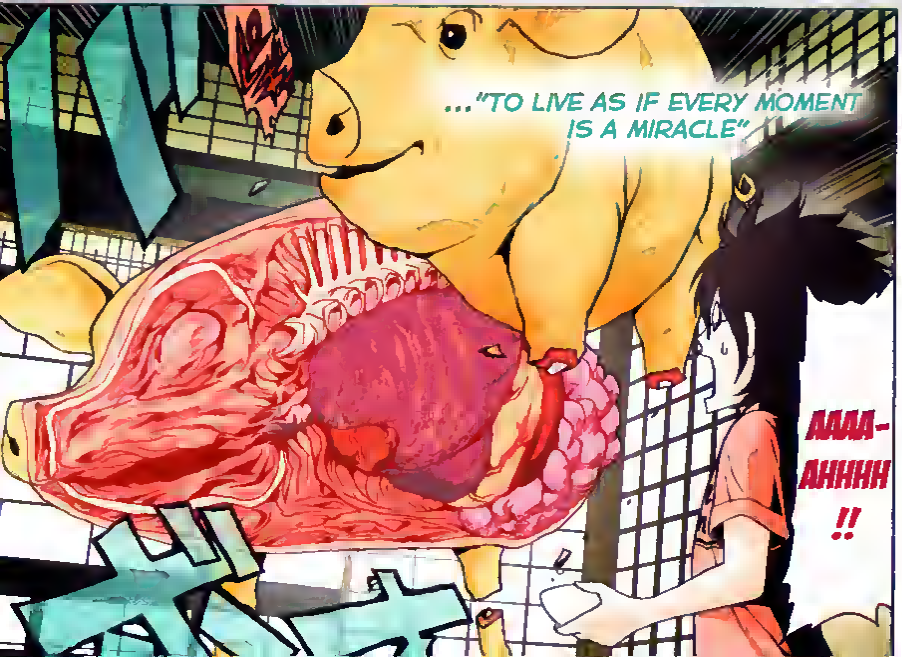
イラスト　瀬川はしめ
デザイン　黒木 香 + ヘイブリッジ スタジオ

SOMEONE ONCE SAID,
THERE ARE ONLY TWO ROADS YOU CAN WALK DOWN IN LIFE



"TO LIVE WITHOUT EVER WITNESSING ANY 'MIRACLES' WHATSOEVER" OR...



奇蹟

瀬川はじめ

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AND SO...

...I DECIDED TO
FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE
WHOLE MIRACLE THING...

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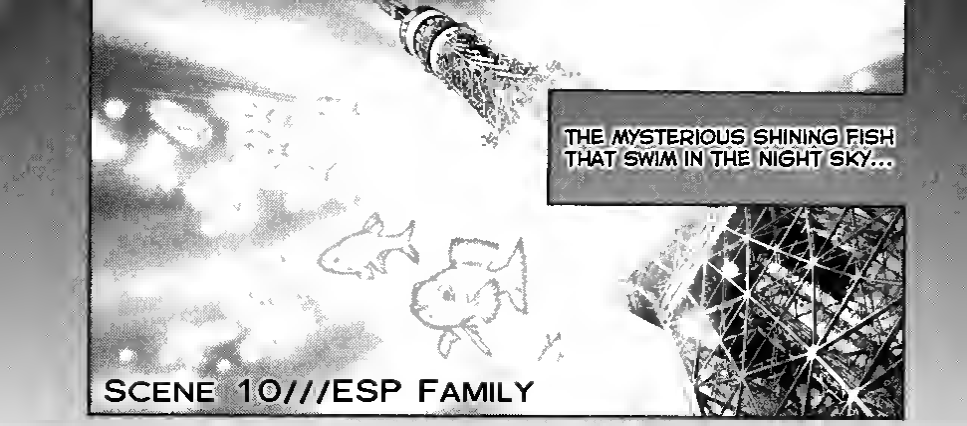
Hajime Segawa Presents

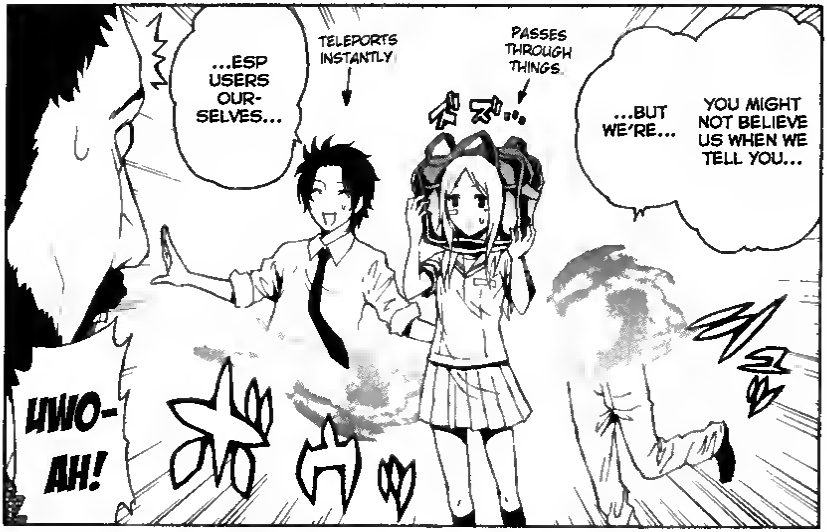


...THAT DRAW OUT THE DORMANT HIDDEN POTENTIAL OF PEOPLE THEY COME IN CONTACT WITH...

...THEY GOT YOU TOO..?!
DON'T TELL ME THOSE FISH...
WHAT ...
YEAH ...
SHE CHOPPED HER HAIR OFF...
THAT KINDA SOUNDS LIKE...
...PSYCHO-METRY...
PEH
...WHENEVER I TOUCH SOMETHING I START TO SEE STRANGE THINGS, BUT ONLY I CAN SEE THEM..
I'M NOT REALLY SURE MYSELF ...

THE PAST..?
...IN SHORT, THE ABILITY TO SEE THE OBJECT'S PAST!
ANY RESIDUAL THOUGHTS LEFT IN OBJECTS...

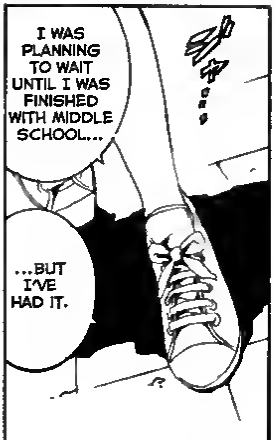
THAT WOULD EXPLAIN WHAT HOTOKEDA WAS SAYING THOUGH...
WAIT JUST A SECOND! ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY... THAT THINGS LIKE SUPER-NATURAL POWERS REALLY EXIST?

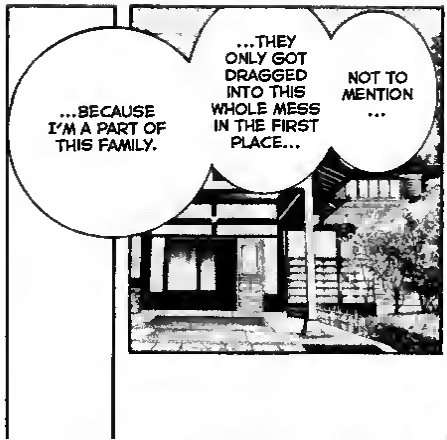

...ESP USERS OUR-SELVES...
TELEPORTS INSTANTLY
PASSES THROUGH THINGS
...BUT WE'RE...
YOU MIGHT NOT BELIEVE US WHEN WE TELL YOU...
UWO-AH!

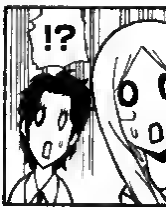
ARE YOU EVEN..
...HUMAN ?!
THAT'S ABSURD ...

...SAY SUCH A THING TO THEM.
HOW COULD YOU...

THEY FOUGHT TOOTH AND NAIL TO SAVE ME...
IF THIS IS THE THANKS MY FAMILY HAS TO SHOW TO MY SAVIORS...
...THEN I'LL HAVE NOTHING FURTHER TO DO WITH SUCH A HOUSE.

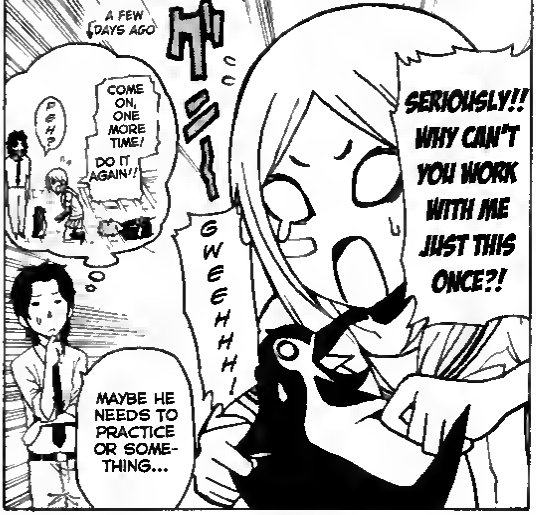

I WAS PLANNING TO WAIT UNTIL I WAS FINISHED WITH MIDDLE SCHOOL...
...BUT I'VE HAD IT.


...BECAUSE I'M A PART OF THIS FAMILY.
...THEY ONLY GOT DRAGGED INTO THIS WHOLE MESS IN THE FIRST PLACE...
NOT TO MENTION ...


!?

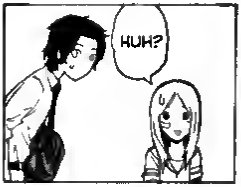
WHA ...

EXPENDABLES
I'M RUNNING AWAY.
I WONDER IF THEY'RE ALWAYS LIKE THIS.
I DIDN'T KNOW SHE WAS SO STRONG.
WAIT...
WAIT, MURASAKI! DON'T BE SO RASH.
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT US. WE'RE NOT UPSET.
MAYBE SHE WAS ALREADY PLANNING THIS WHEN SHE CUT HER HAIR...?
ER...
BESIDES, MAYBE PEGGI CAN RETURN YOU BACK TO NORMAL WITH HIS ABILITY.
GWEH!
OKAY PEGGI! DO THAT THING FROM BEFORE! COME ON!
PEH?


A FEW DAYS AGO
COME ON, ONE MORE TIME! DO IT AGAIN!!
PEH?
GWEEHHH!
SERIOUSLY!! WHY CAN'T YOU WORK WITH ME JUST THIS ONCE?!
MAYBE HE NEEDS TO PRACTICE OR SOME-THING...

THAT ONE THAT DEVOURS POWERS LIKE... CHOMP!
NOT "PEH?"
KWEH?
.....

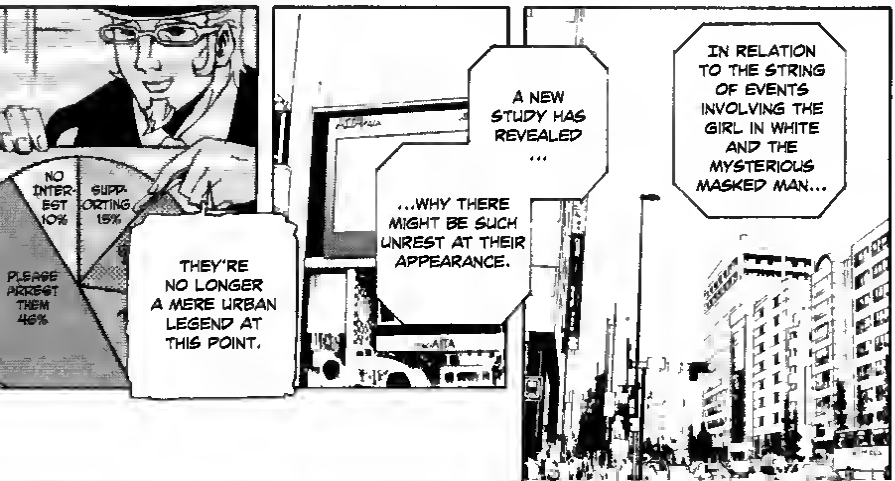
SO WE'LL NEED TO KNOW WHERE YOU ARE IF WE WANT TO HELP YOU...
.....
SORRY, IT LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT TAKE A LITTLE MORE TIME...
...SO MAYBE RUNNING AWAY ISN'T THE BEST...
...BUT DON'T WORRY, WE'LL DEFINITELY GET YOU BACK TO YOUR NORMAL SELF, WELL IN THEORY.


HUH?

BEING AT HOME ...
EXPEN

THEN I'LL STAY WITH RINKA.

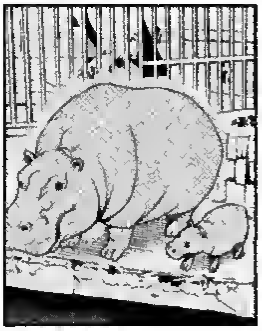
...SCARES ME...


NO INTEREST 10%
SUPPORTING 15%
PLEASE ARREST THEM 46%
THEY'RE NO LONGER A MERE URBAN LEGEND AT THIS POINT.
A NEW STUDY HAS REVEALED ...
...WHY THERE MIGHT BE SUCH UNREST AT THEIR APPEARANCE.
IN RELATION TO THE STRING OF EVENTS INVOLVING THE GIRL IN WHITE AND THE MYSTERIOUS MASKED MAN...

SORRY TO HAVE KEPT YOU WAITING EVERYONE.
WE MET WITH SOME UNEXPECTED DIFFICULTIES IN THE PREPARATION OF OUR FACILITIES ...
...SINCE WE FIRST CAPTURED HIM THE OTHER DAY IN THE DISTURBANCE.
海洋生物研究
SIGN. MARINE LIFE RESEARCH.
OUR INVESTIGATION IS STILL IN THE PRIMARY STAGES...
...BUT RESEARCH TEAMS FROM EACH DIVISION THE WORLD OVER HAVE ALREADY BEGUN TO GATHER.
AFTER-ALL...
...AN ORGANISM THAT CAN CONTROL WATER WITH HIS THOUGHTS ALONE...
IT'S THE FIND OF A CENTURY.

...TO THIS MYSERIOUS PHENOMENON CURRENTLY ENGULFING TOKYO.
IT MIGHT SERVE AS A CLUE...

ブヒッ
……



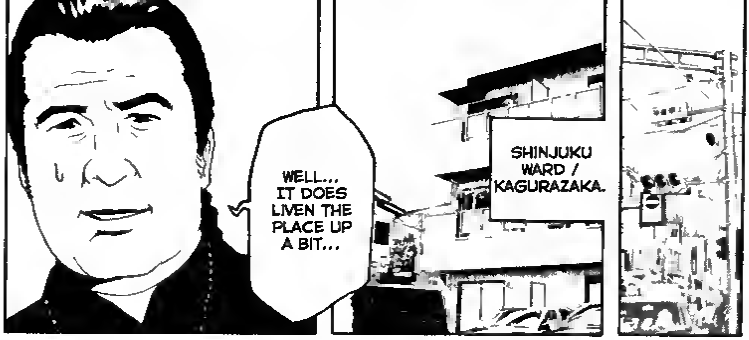
BWEH
ブヒ

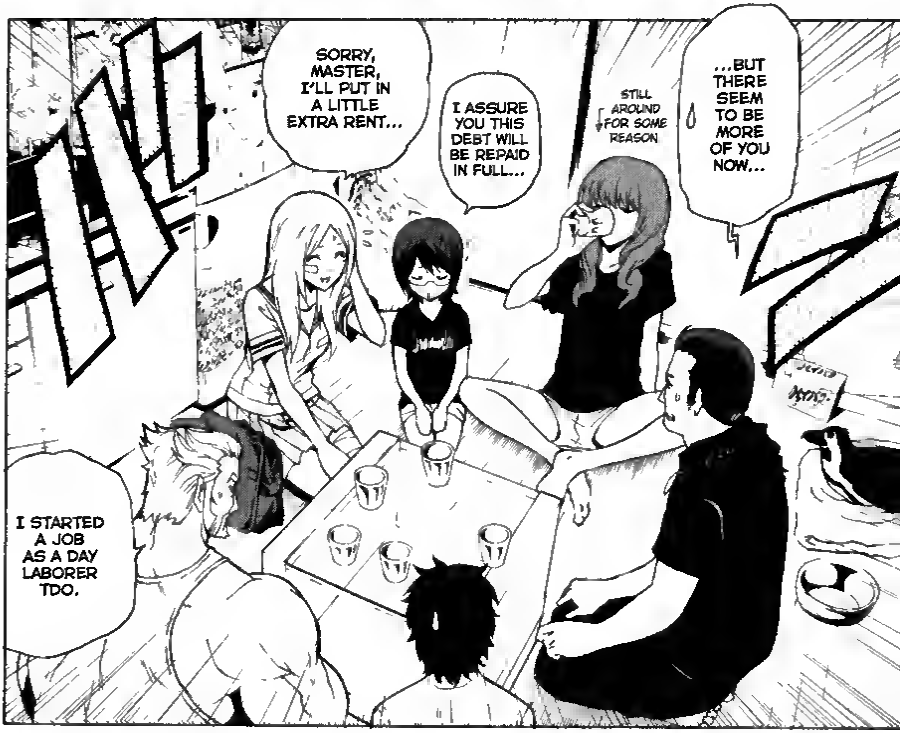
CURRENTLY, OUR POLICE FORCES HAVE BEEN POWERLESS TO STOP THEM...

WE ARE REFERRING TO THIS CHAIN OF EVENTS AS THE "TOKYO MYSTERY CASE".
ヒソ

NATUR-
ALLY...
!!
WHO'S
THAT
?!
HOW DID
THEY GET
IN HERE...

ドゴォ
BWW-UOO!
...WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO STOP OUR EVOLUTION.
THE LIKES OF YOU...
THAT'S 200MM THICK REINFORCED PLASTIC!!
ドゴォ
WE WON'T STOP UNTIL EVERY LAST THING IS OBLITERATED.

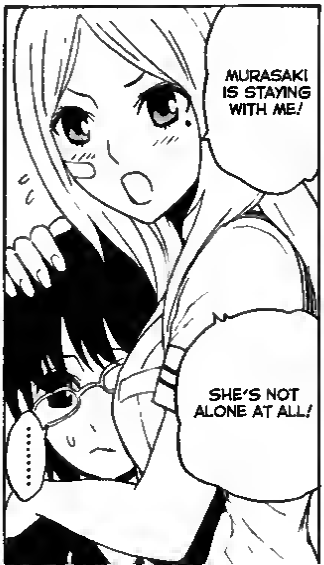

WELL... IT DOES LIVEN THE PLACE UP A BIT...
SHINJUKU WARD / KAGURAZAKA.


SORRY, MASTER, I'LL PUT IN A LITTLE EXTRA RENT...
I ASSURE YOU THIS DEBT WILL BE REPAID IN FULL...
STILL AROUND FOR SOME REASON
...BUT THERE SEEM TO BE MORE OF YOU NOW...
I STARTED A JOB AS A DAY LABORER TDO.

A SELFISH PERSON WHO I DON'T REALLY KNOW.
WHO... IS THIS?
LET'S BE FRIENDS~ OKAY?!
AHAHA! SO YOU RAN AWAY? I USED TO DO THAT ALL THE TIME!
I GUESS THAT'S WHAT I'M DOING NOW TDO.
THE MOST RELAXED ABOUT THE WHOLE THING

COME ON...
...ALL A PERSON NEEDS IS A FULL BELLY...
...AND THEY CAN SURVIVE EVEN THE MOST EXTREME CONDITIONS ON THE ROAD.
FORGET ABOUT ANY GRADES, SOCIAL ETIQUETTE, GRUDGES OR PRIDE. TOSS 'EM OUT!
WUT ?!
IF YOU'RE GONNA MAKE IT ON YOUR OWN, YOU'VE GOTTA BE ABLE TO HANDLE AT LEAST THAT MUCH.

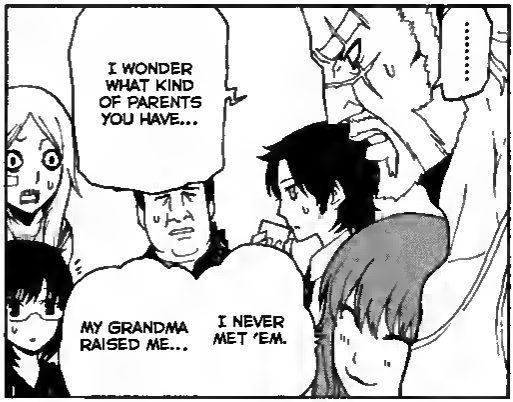
AND BESIDES, DON'T YOU THINK...
...YOU'VE THROWN AWAY ONE TOO MANY OF YOUR MORALS?!

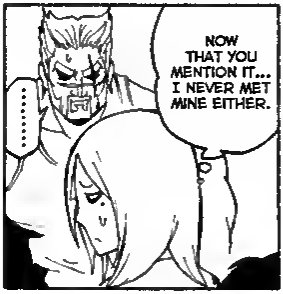

MURASAKI IS STAYING WITH ME!
SHE'S NOT ALONE AT ALL!
.....

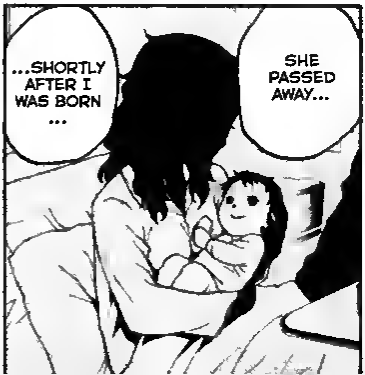
YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE YOU SUFFERED A DAY IN YOUR ENTIRE LIFE !!
DON'T GIVE HER SUCH IRRESPONSIBLE ADVICE!
HUH?

WHA...!!
YEAH, WELL WHAT ABOUT YOU?
THE ONLY REASON YOU'RE SUCH A GOODY IS BECAUSE YOU HAD THIS DARLING PRINCE...
...ALL TO YOURSELF THIS WHOLE TIME!

ME NEITHER...
I NEVER GOT TO MEET MY MOTHER...


I WONDER WHAT KIND OF PARENTS YOU HAVE...
.....
MY GRANDMA RAISED ME...
I NEVER MET 'EM.


NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT... I NEVER MET MINE EITHER.
.....


SHE PASSED AWAY...
...SHORTLY AFTER I WAS BORN...

WELL...
NO MATTER WHAT YOU DECIDE TO DO WITH YOURSELF...
...JUST NEVER BREAK THE LAW.
ONE WRONG DEED, AND YOU'RE CONFINED FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.
AND THE ONLY WAY TO GET OUT IS DEATH...
I SAW A LOT IN MY POLICE DAYS.
.....
I WANT TO BE LIKE RINKA...
I DON'T WANNA BE A CHILD ANYMORE.
I...

SO TEACH ME LOTS OF THINGS...
AND I'LL REMEMBER ...
...EVERYTHING THAT I CAN.

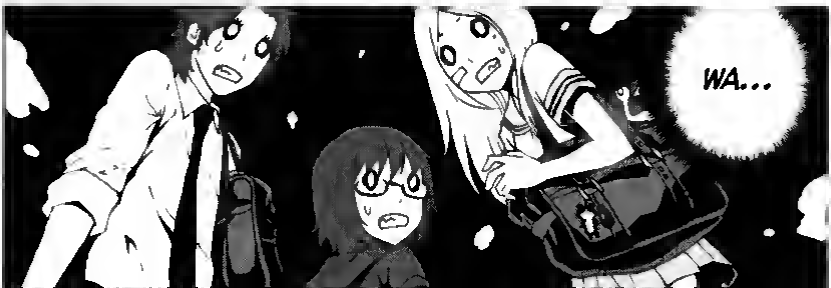
PLAYING HERO...
...IS DEFINITELY OUT OF THE PICTURE. TOO DANGEROUS.

YEAH... I'M KINDA SCARED TO TOUCH THINGS NOW.
IF WE DON'T CONSCIOUSLY CONTROL OUR ESP...
...IT'LL GO OFF AUTOMATICALLY.
IF ANYTHING, YOU'VE GOTTA FIGURE OUT HOW TO CONTROL YOUR ESP.

PGH!
BUT... WHAT I REALLY WANTED WAS TO BE STRONGER.
BEING ABLE TO SEE THE PAST IS NICE... BUT THAT WON'T PROTECT ME FROM DANGER...
HEY, WHAT ABOUT YOU GUYS?
IF YOU COULD GET RID OF YOUR ESP...
...DO YOU THINK YOU WOULD?
IT'S NOT LIKE I NEVER CONSIDERED IT...
WELL THAT'S...

LET ME HELP. I COULDN'T STAND KNOWING YOU'RE IN THERE ALL ALONE.
THERE'S NO ONE ELSE I'D WANNA BE A HERO WITH!!
.....
...I HAVE A FEW THINGS I WANT TO DO FIRST.
WELL, FOR NOW...

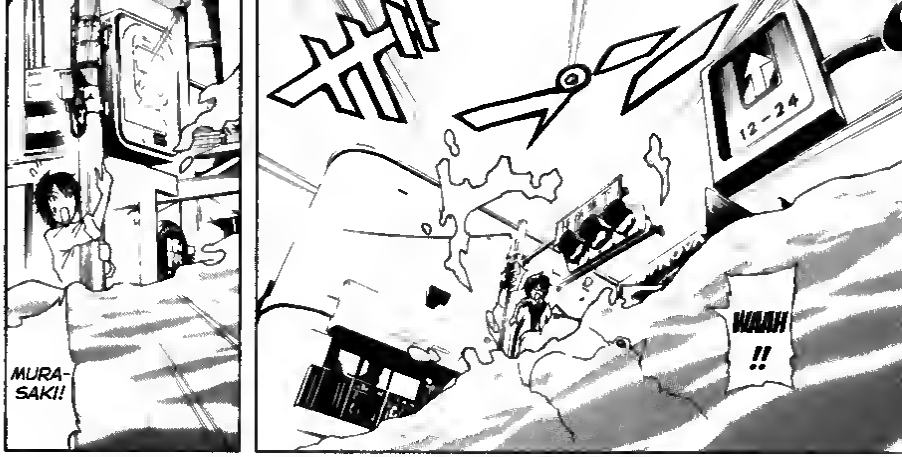
ゴポ
ゴポ
ゴポ
ゴポ
HUH ..?
WHAT THE?!
WHOA !!
THE WATER IS...
!?
ゴポ
ゴポ
ゴポ ゴポ


WA...

...TER!
WHAT IS THIS...
...A FLOOD ?!
ゴボボ
ゴボボボ
OOPS!
IT'S ONLY PASSING THROUGH ME!!
MURA-SAKI!!
ゴボボ

A HIPPO?
THAT WAS WHEN ...
!?

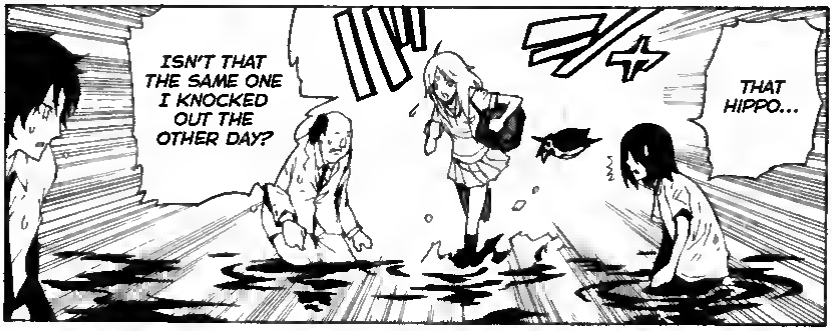
HER BABY?


MURA-
SAKI!
WAAH
!!

SNUOO!
.....

AH
HH
!!

DID THAT HIPPO JUST... SAVE ME?
.....


ISN'T THAT THE SAME ONE I KNOCKED OUT THE OTHER DAY?
THAT HIPPO...

THE RIVER WATER TOO?!
IT'S JUST GETTING BIGGER THE MORE IT SUCKS IN...

WAH!

GOOD AFTER-NOON...
THIS IS THE TOKYO DISASTER PREVENTION CENTER.
CURRENTLY, AN ENTIRE SECTION OF SHINJUKU WARD...
...HAS OFFICIALLY BEEN ANNOUNCED TO BE UNDER FLOOD CONDITIONS.
BWOO!
ゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴ
FOR THOSE CURRENTLY OUTSIDE, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY HEAD TOWARDS YOUR NEAREST BUILDING AND..
IT'S DANGER-OUS THAT WAY!
PLEASE FIND SHELTER RIGHT AWAY!
THERE'S SO MUCH WATER... THERE'S NO WAY I CAN TELEPORT IT ANYWHERE LIKE THIS!
STAND BACK YOU TWO!
I DON'T REALLY WANT TO KICK ANOTHER ANIMAL..! BUT WE HAVE NO CHOICE!

.....
I'LL SEE WHAT PEGGI AND I CAN MANAGE!
AZUMA, THAT HIPPO... WAS ESCAPING FROM A RESEARCH LAB...
AT THIS RATE...
YOU TWO THERE! HURRY AND RUN AWAY!
USE THE TRANQU-ILLIZER GUN PLEASE!
IF WE CAN JUST GET HIM TO FALL ASLEEP...
NO WAY... WITH A THICK HIDE LIKE THAT?
WE'D HAVE TO BE ALMOST RIGHT ON TOP OF HIM...

BWUO!
WHERE ...
...IS IT TRYING TO GO!!

PEH?
EXTRACT HIS FISH!!
PLEASE PEGGI!
ERK
COME ON! YOU CAN DO IT!
THE GIRL IN WHITE !!

WAAAAH!!
RINKA!
PEH...
PEGAAA!!

!

AH ..!

BW ...
ゴゴゴ

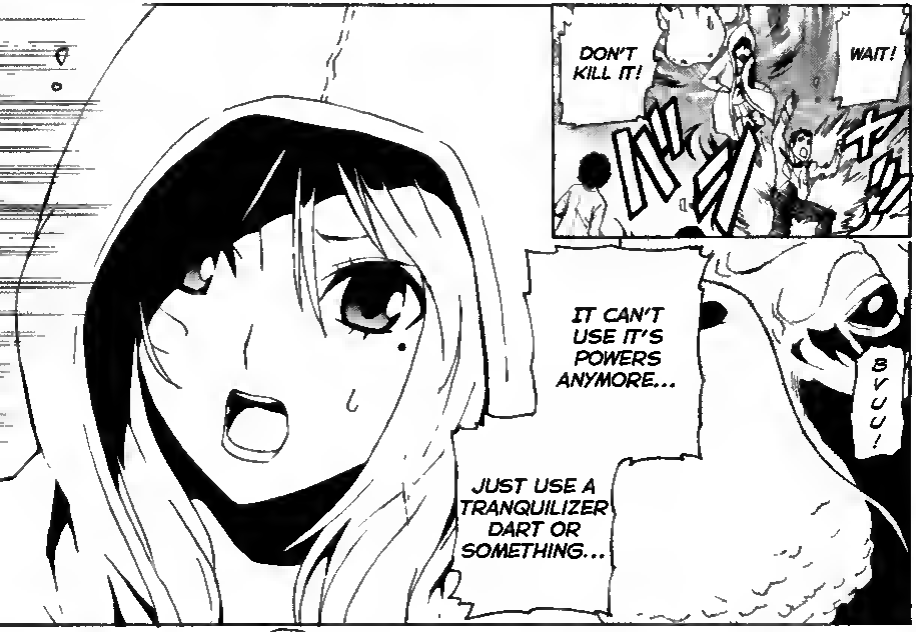
IT'S FALL-ING..!
RUN !!

WAAH!
COUGH COUGH
BWUO...

BWAA-OOOOO!!
UWAH!!
GET BACK! IT'S WILD!

THERE ARE PEOPLE AROUND STILL! CALM DOWN!!
NO! YOU'LL HURT IT!!
EEEK!

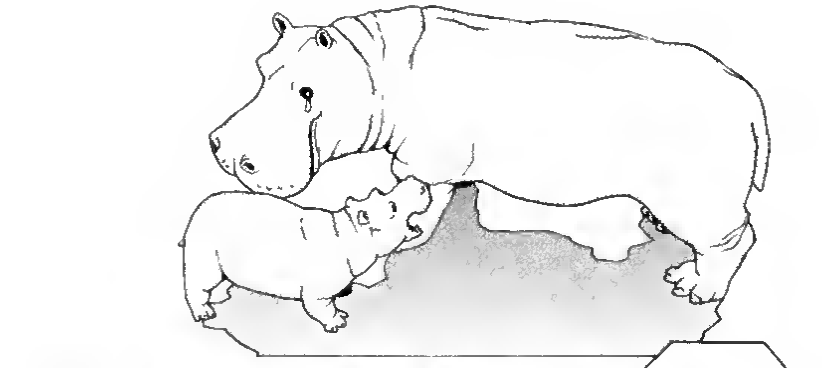
WA AA AA AH HH !!

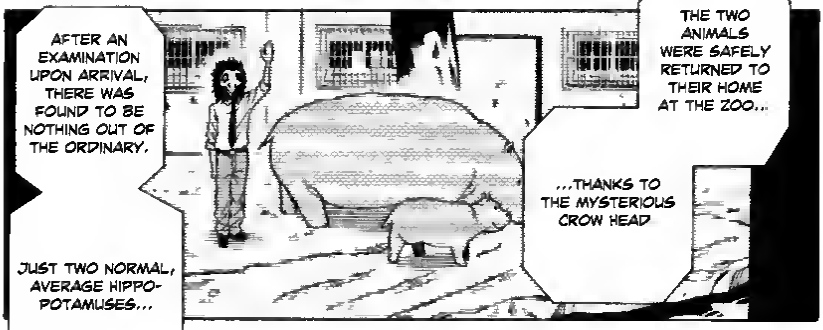

DON'T KILL IT!
WAIT!
IT CAN'T USE IT'S POWERS ANYMORE...
BYUU!
JUST USE A TRANQUILIZER DART OR SOMETHING...

GET DOWN!
IDIOT !!
POW-ERS ?!

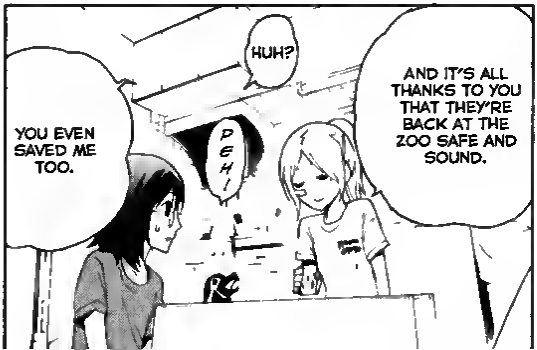
BABY HIPPO!!
!!
BWA?
BWU-EEE!!
.....!

AZUMA?
...IT'S ALL CALM...
NOW...
WHAT IS GOING ON?
WHAT...
AND SO IT SEEMS SHE ESCAPED FROM THE RESEARCH LAB TO GO BACK TO THE ZOO AND HER BABY.
IT APPEARS THAT EVER SINCE SHE WAS CAPTURED...
...SHE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT HER BABY SHE LEFT BEHIND AT THE ZOO.
MURASAKI FIGURED IT OUT...
HOW DID YOU KNOW...?




AFTER AN EXAMINATION UPON ARRIVAL, THERE WAS FOUND TO BE NOTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY.
JUST TWO NORMAL, AVERAGE HIPPOPOTAMUSES...
THE TWO ANIMALS WERE SAFELY RETURNED TO THEIR HOME AT THE ZOO...
...THANKS TO THE MYSTERIOUS CROW HEAD

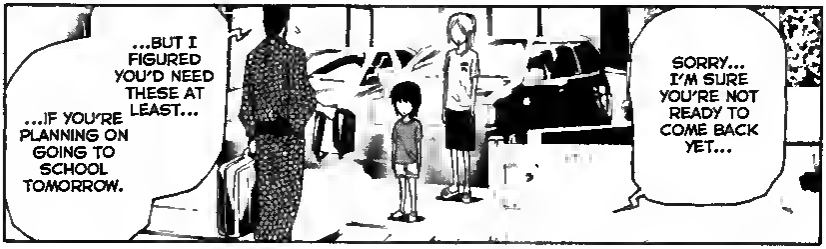
IT IS STILL UNCERTAIN IF THIS HAS ANY CONNECTION WITH THE PREVIOUS EVENTS THOUGH.


HUH?
PEH!
YOU EVEN SAVED ME TOO.
AND IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU THAT THEY'RE BACK AT THE ZOO SAFE AND SOUND.

A MOTHER AND HER CHILD...

ギュッ
.....

UM... THERE'S THIS CAR OUT FRONT...


...BUT I FIGURED YOU'D NEED THESE AT LEAST...
...IF YOU'RE PLANNING ON GOING TO SCHOOL TOMORROW.
SORRY... I'M SURE YOU'RE NOT READY TO COME BACK YET...

IT BELONGED TO YOUR MOTHER.

WHAT'S THAT?

.....

BUT I'M NOT GOOD AT THAT KIND OF THING...
I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN THAT OUR HOME WASN'T WHAT IT COULD BE.
BUT YOU SAY...
...YOU CAN SEE THE PAST WITH THIS ABILITY OF YOURS..
THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO...
...FOR A YOUNG GIRL LIKE YOU.
I COULDN'T BALANCE BEING THE BOSS AND YOUR DAD...
SO...
I THOUGHT MAYBE THIS WAY...
...YOU COULD AT LEAST FEEL YOUR MOTHER'S LOVE.
CALL ME WHEN YOU'VE CALMED DOWN ...
I'LL BE WAITING...
ガチャ

AW, WHAT THE...
SHE HAD FAMILY LOOKING FOR HER THIS WHOLE TIME?
ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULDN'T HEAD HOME YOURSELF?
MEH.
NOT LIKE ANYONE WOULD BE THERE EVEN IF I DID.
IF I WAS...
...YOUR DAUGHTER INSTEAD, ...
...I BET YOU WOULD'VE TREATED ME LIKE A PRINCESS.

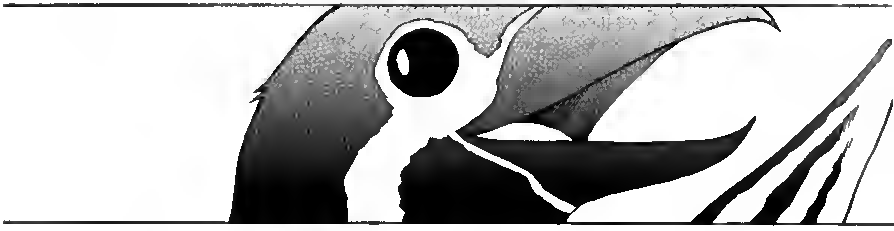
I'D GIVE YOU THE BEST I COULD...
NO REGRETS, THAT KINDA THING...
.....
WELL, OF COURSE.
...
BECAUSE EVERYONE ...
...WILL PART WAYS ONE DAY.

...MURASAKI?

I THINK...
...THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I EVER SAW MY MOTHER.
I WONDER...
...IF THIS COUNTS AS A "MIRACLE" TOO.
YEAH ...
I THINK SO...
o
O

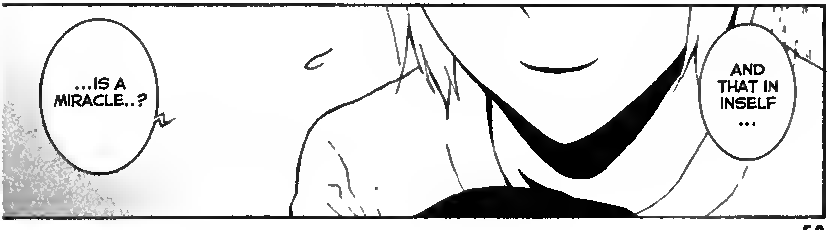
WE HAPPENED UPON EACH OTHER THROUGH SHEER COINCIDENCE.

OUR LITTLE BIT OF COURAGE... BINDS OUR HEARTS TO ONE ANOTHER.



I DOUBT OTHERS COULD UNDERSTAND WHAT IT'S LIKE TO LIVE LIKE WE DO...

...BUT I FOUND THIS SINGLE MOMENT SO VERY DEAR TO ME.



PSYCHOMETRY
...
WHAT AN INTERESTING ABILITY YOU'VE DEVELOPED.
!!
W-WHO ARE YOU?!
LET'S HAVE A LITTLE TALK.
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF.
CHOSEN ONES...
WHA ...!

SCENE 10 /// END

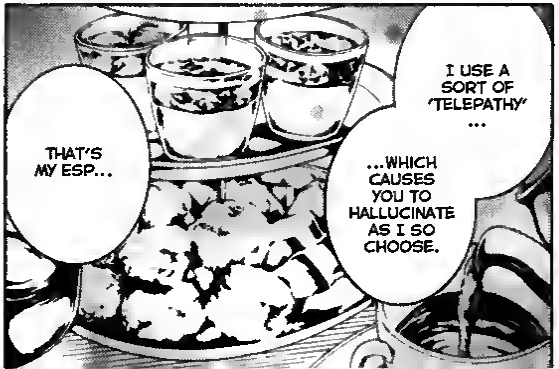
SCENE 11///PROFESSOR OF ILLUSION
D-DID HE JUST COME OUT OF A PUDDLE?!
IS HE AN ESPER TOO ?!
BUT THEN...
WHAT'S HIS...

URUSHIBA RINKA...
NOW THEN, SHALL WE BEGIN?

WHERE AM I?!
WH...

...IS AN "ILLUSION" I'VE CREATED FOR YOU.
WHAT YOU'RE SEEING ...

THERE'S NO NEED TO BE SO ON GUARD. I DO NOT PLAN TO CAUSE YOU ANY HARM.


THAT'S MY ESP...
I USE A SORT OF 'TELEPATHY' ...
...WHICH CAUSES YOU TO HALLUCINATE AS I SO CHOOSE.

EVERYTHING WILL FEEL, TASTE AND SMELL JUST LIKE THE REAL THING...
...BUT NOT A SINGLE ONE OF THEM ACTUALLY EXISTS.
RINKA!
ILLUSION?!
OMG THAT LOOKS GOOD
PEH!
ポウッ
JUST LIKE YOU...
...I RECEIVED MY ABILITY FROM THESE SHINING FISH HERE.
KWEH!!
WHAT'S THAT... IT ALMOST LOOKED LIKE THE FISH... CAME OUT OF IT...?
!!

PSH ?!
THAT COULD HAVE BEEN BAD...
...YOU HAVE THE "COLLECTOR" ON YOUR TEAM.
I ALMOST FORGOT...

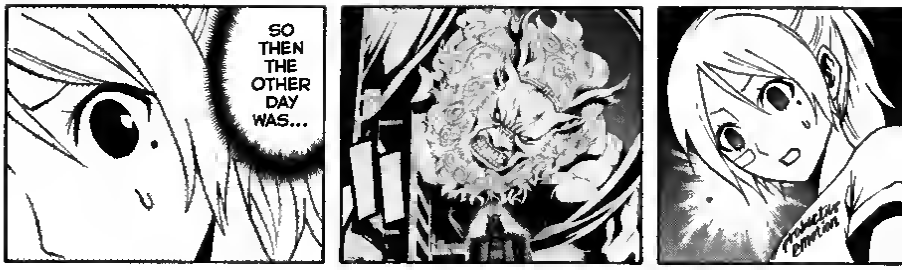
OH MY...

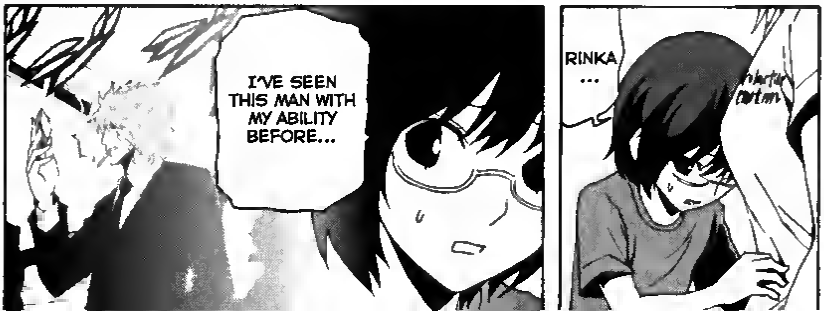
HOW DO WE GET OUT OF THIS...
RINKA...
EVEN HE WAS AN ILLUSION ..?

AND THAT STONE JUST NOW ...
...DOES THAT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE SHINING FISH..?
WHAT'S THIS COLLECTOR ABOUT?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?

...WITH THE STONE THEN.
LET ME START...
IT'S THE FRAGMENT OF A LITHO-GRAPH.
A LEGEND AMONG LEGENDS.
AND WITHIN THIS STONE LIES A MYSTERIOUS POWER...
...THAT AWAKENS THE HIDDEN POWER WITHIN A CREATURE.
THIS POWER INTER-FERES WITH THE CREA-TURE'S BODY...
...AND OVER-TAKES THEIR VERY CELLS.
THOSE WITH A SUITABLE COMPOSITION HAPPEN TO SEE THIS AS A GROUP OF SHINING FISH.
DEHI
...!

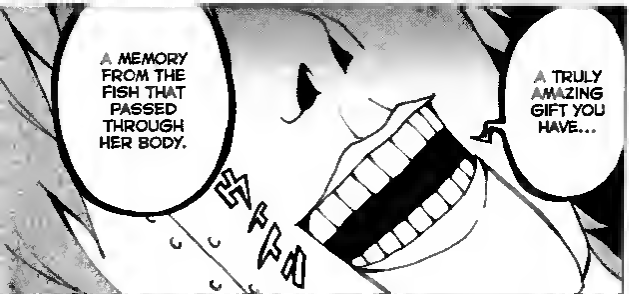
IN TERMS OF MY RESEARCH...
WAA AAA AAH HH!!
...THIS WAS EASILY OUR GREATEST DISCOVERY.


SO THEN THE OTHER DAY WAS...


I'VE SEEN THIS MAN WITH MY ABILITY BEFORE...
RINKA ...

HE WAS THE ONE...

...ALL OVER TOKYO.
...WHO RELEASED THE SHINING FISH...


A MEMORY FROM THE FISH THAT PASSED THROUGH HER BODY.
A TRULY AMAZING GIFT YOU HAVE...

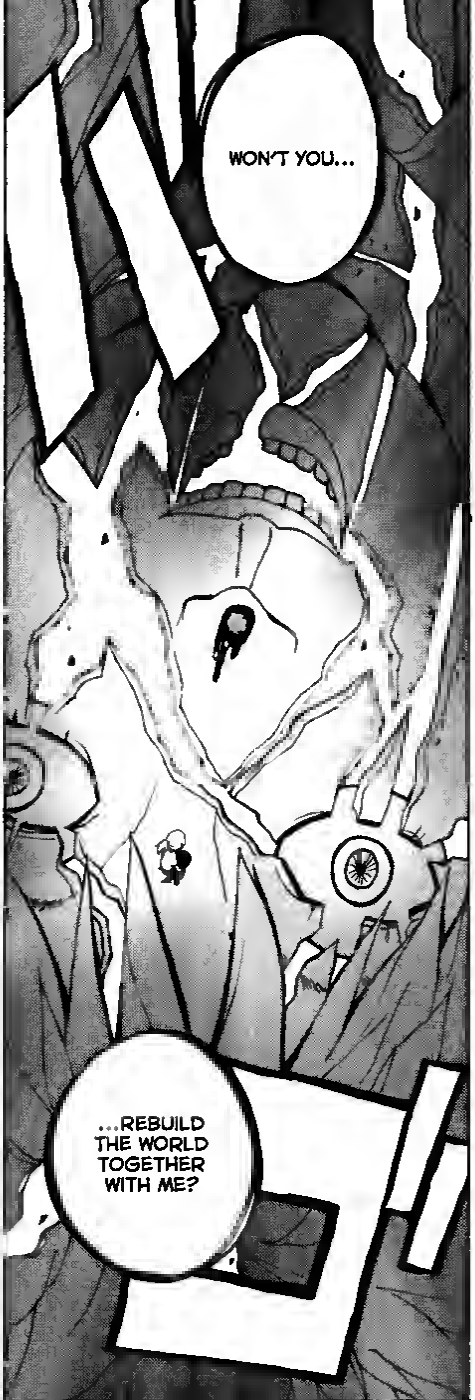
I HAVE BEEN RELEASING THEM PERIODICALLY FOR ABOUT 3 MONTHS NOW.
!
YOU'RE RIGHT, THOUGH.

I BELIEVE IT ACTS AS A SORT OF 'SAFETY DEVICE', SO TO SPEAK.
I KNEW THAT THE 'COLLECTOR' WOULD APPEAR AT SOME POINT.
I EXPECTED THAT MUCH FROM MY RESEARCH...

.....

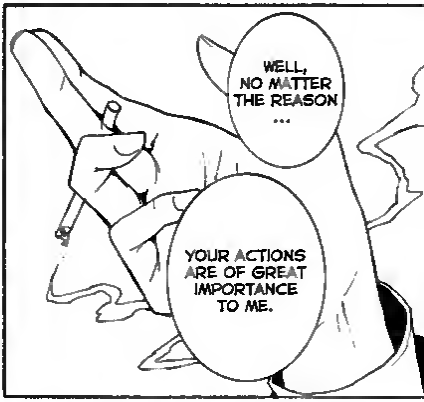
KWEH!
AND I NEVER IMAGINED THEY'D ALSO HAVE THE COMBINED ABILITY TO FLY.
YET, I HAD NO IDEA WHO IT WAS HIDING IN.

BUT WHY WOULO YOU EVEN DO SUCH A THING...
DO YOU KNOW...
...HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN HURT BECAUSE OF THIS ESP OF YOURS?
WHY..?
TO GUIDE ...
...AN EVEN LARGER NUMBER OF CHOSEN ONES...
...TO PARADISE WITH ME.


WON'T YOU...
...REBUILD THE WORLD TOGETHER WITH ME?

LET ME ASK YOU A QUESTION THEN...
WHY DO YOU FIGHT?

FOR YOUR WAVERING JUSTICE AND PEACE?
OR, PERHAPS FOR YOUR LOVE OF KYOU-TAROU?
WUT !?
HOW DO YOU KNOW AZUMA..!

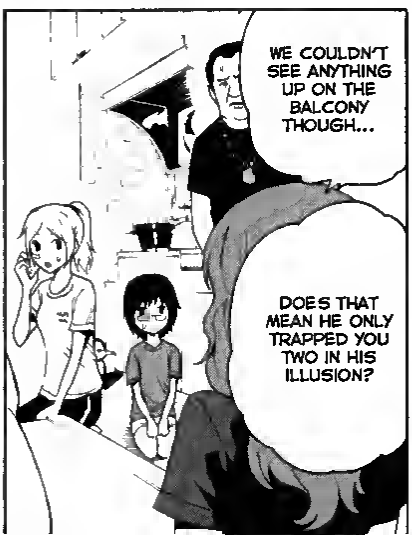

WELL, NO MATTER THE REASON ...
YOUR ACTIONS ARE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO ME.

I'LL PERFORM A "MIRACLE" DOWNTOWN.
IT ALL BEGINS IN A WEEK...
...AND A NEW SYSTEM WILL BECOME NECESSARY.
AS A RESULT, THERE WILL BE A MASS PANIC...
IT'S ABOUT TIME...
...YOU LEARNED WHAT THAT MEANS...
TAKE YOUR TIME AND CONSIDER CAREFULLY.
YOU ARE THE "CHOSEN ONES"...

...WHAT HE SAID ...
YEAH...
IS THAT REALLY...
PROF-ESSOR ..?!

ANYHOW, IT WAS REALLY SUDDEN...
I STILL HAVEN'T SORTED IT ALL OUT YET MYSELF.

.....


WE COULDN'T SEE ANYTHING UP ON THE BALCONY THOUGH...
DOES THAT MEAN HE ONLY TRAPPED YOU TWO IN HIS ILLUSION?

HE WAS KIND OF... EERIE, ALMOST LIKE A GHOST OR SOME-THING...
ALTHOUGH HE DID TELL ME A BUNCH OF STUFF RANDOMLY TOO.

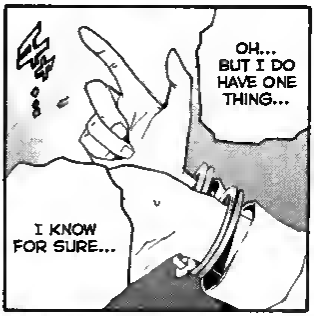
I WONDER WHAT HE'S PLANNING...
HAHA HAHA
WAH!
HE SAID HE'D PERFORM A MIRACLE IN ONE WEEK...
UWAAH!!
THAT MAN YOU SAW ...
I THINK I KNOW HIM...
AZUMA!
DON'T TELEPORT INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S HOUSES !!
HEY ...
HEY ..!

AZUMA HOKUSAI...
MINAMI'S FATHER...
TOKYO METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPT.
LIKE I SAID, IT WAS MY ESP!
HERE I AM, TELLING THE TRUTH AND YOU WON'T EVEN BELIEVE ME!
...AND THE MAN WHO ADOPTED ME.

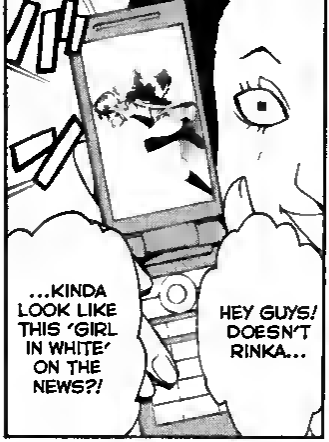
WHEN DID YOU FIRST GAIN THIS ABILITY OF YOURS?
I GOT IT FROM A GUY IN A WARRIOR COSTUME!! I DUNNO WHO HE REALLY IS THOUGH!!
SO WHY CAN'T YOU USE THIS POWER OF YOURS NOW?!
HELL IF I KNOW!!

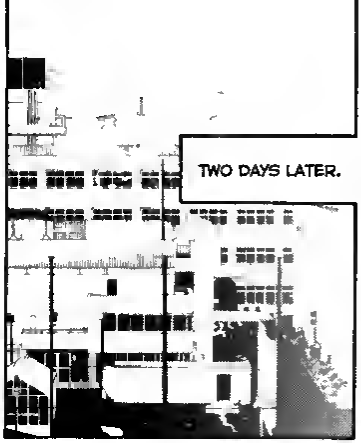
...DEPENDS ON THE DEAL.
IT'S NOT ENTIRELY UP TO ME.

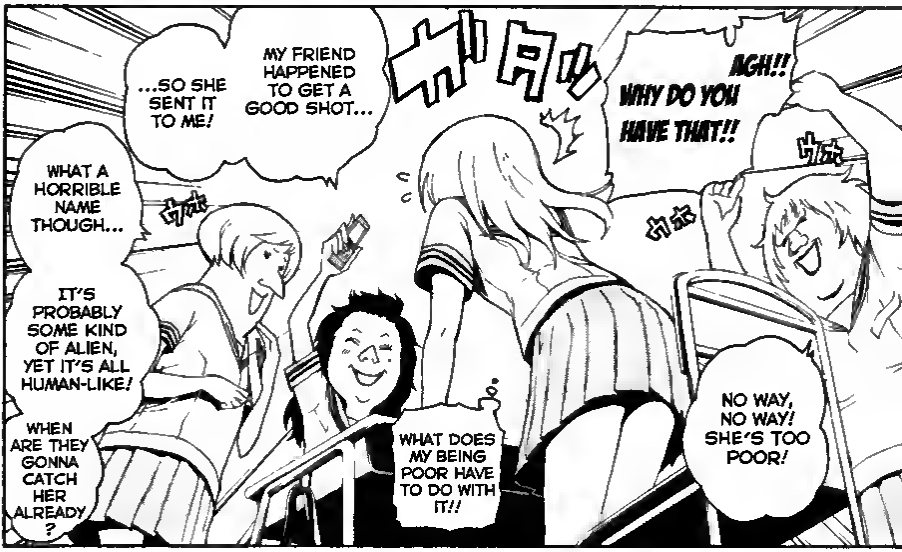
I'LL TELL YOU...
...IF YOU CUT ME A DEAL.
!

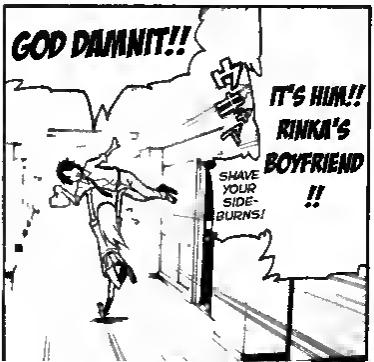

OH... BUT I DO HAVE ONE THING...
I KNOW FOR SURE...

I GOT HER REAL NAME AND ADDRESS ..!
THE "GIRL IN WHITE"...
...WHO DESTROYED MY BRO'S SPOT!


...KINDA LOOK LIKE THIS 'GIRL IN WHITE' ON THE NEWS?!
HEY GUYS! DOESN'T RINKA...


TWO DAYS LATER.


...SO SHE SENT IT TO ME!
MY FRIEND HAPPENED TO GET A GOOD SHOT...
AGH!! WHY DO YOU HAVE THAT!!
WHAT A HORRIBLE NAME THOUGH...
IT'S PROBABLY SOME KIND OF ALIEN, YET IT'S ALL HUMAN-LIKE!
WHEN ARE THEY GONNA CATCH HER ALREADY?
WHAT DOES MY BEING POOR HAVE TO DO WITH IT!!
NO WAY, NO WAY! SHE'S TOO POOR!


GOD DAMNIT!!
IT'S HIM!! RINKA'S BOYFRIEND !!
SHAVE YOUR SIDE-BURNS!

RINKA, I MADE YOU LUNCH AGAIN TODAY...

THIS IS NO TIME FOR STUDYING...
FINALS ARE COMING UP SOON.
UGH ...
KWEH!
LOCKED UP ON THE ROOF
A FRIEND?
.....
SORRY ...
YOU SEEM MUCH MORE UPSET ABOUT THIS THAN I AM.
WHILE I DO THANK HIM HELPING ME GET BACK TO JAPAN...
AND I HAVE NO DOUBT IN MY MIND THAT HE WAS THE ONE USING THE FISH AND PULLING THE STRINGS IN THE BACK-GROUND.
...I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT HIS MOTIVE WAS IN MEETING WITH YOU ...
I KNOW DAD TOLD ME NOT TO...
JUST IGNORE WHATEVER HE DOES IN A WEEK!
...BUT I JUST CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER.

NAH... IT'S JUST...
...I FEEL BAD GETTING YOU INVOVLED IN THIS MESS NOW.
HUH?
I KINDA HAD A FEELING IT WAS SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
BESIDES...
BOTH OF MY PARENTS...
...WERE PART OF THE PROFESSOR'S RESEARCH TEAM...
THEY TOOK LITTLE ME ALONG WITH THEM...
...TO STAY OVERSEAS DURING THE EXCAVATION

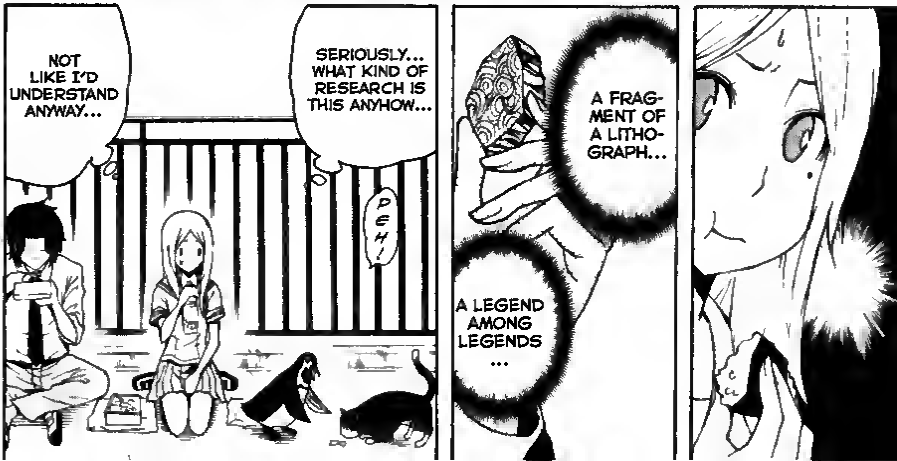
THEY GOT CAUGHT UP IN THE LOCAL FIGHTING AND DIED...
BUT THEY WERE ALWAYS...
...TELLING ME ABOUT THE UNSOLVED MYSTERIES OF THE PAST...
...OR THE MIRACLES OF THE HEROES OF THE LEGEND.

FOR SOME REASON...
...I GOT THIS ODD FEELING THAT IT WAS ALL CONNECTED ...
...TO WHAT MY PARENTS WERE WORKING ON.

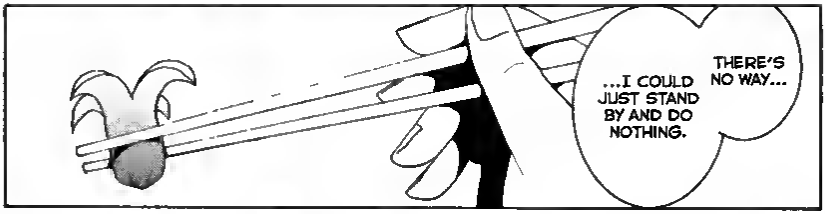
SO MAYBE THAT'S WHY...
...WHEN I FIRST BECAME AWARE OF MY ESP...

SO THAT'S WHY HE WAS FOLLOWING THE FISH LIKE THAT...
SO IT'S JUST LIKE YOU THOUGHT?
IF THE PROFESSOR IS ACTUALLY INVOLVED IN IT ALL...
YEAH ...
IT ALL MAKES SENSE.

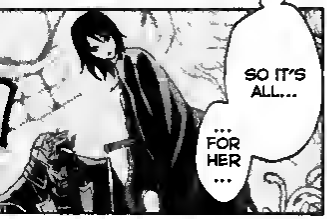
MAYBE MY PARENTS' DEATH...
AND EVEN THE CIVIL WAR...
MAYBE IT WAS ALL A RESULT OF THE PROFESSOR'S RESEARCH.


A FRAG-MENT OF A LITHO-GRAPH...
A LEGEND AMONG LEGENDS ...
SERIOUSLY... WHAT KIND OF RESEARCH IS THIS ANYHOW...
PEH!
NOT LIKE I'D UNDERSTAND ANYWAY...

WELL, EITHER WAY...
IF MINAMI...
...IS REALLY BEING MANIPULATED BY THE PROFESSOR...


THERE'S NO WAY...
...I COULD JUST STAND BY AND DO NOTHING.

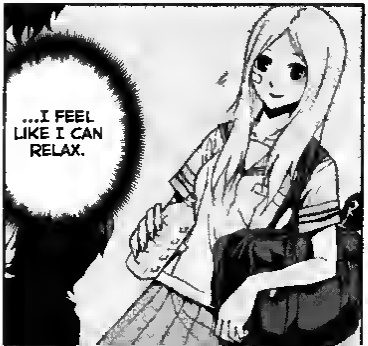
SIGH


SO IT'S ALL...
...FOR HER...

KW EH!
WE HAVE OUR OWN TRUMP CARD TOO.
LITTLE PEGGI HERE.

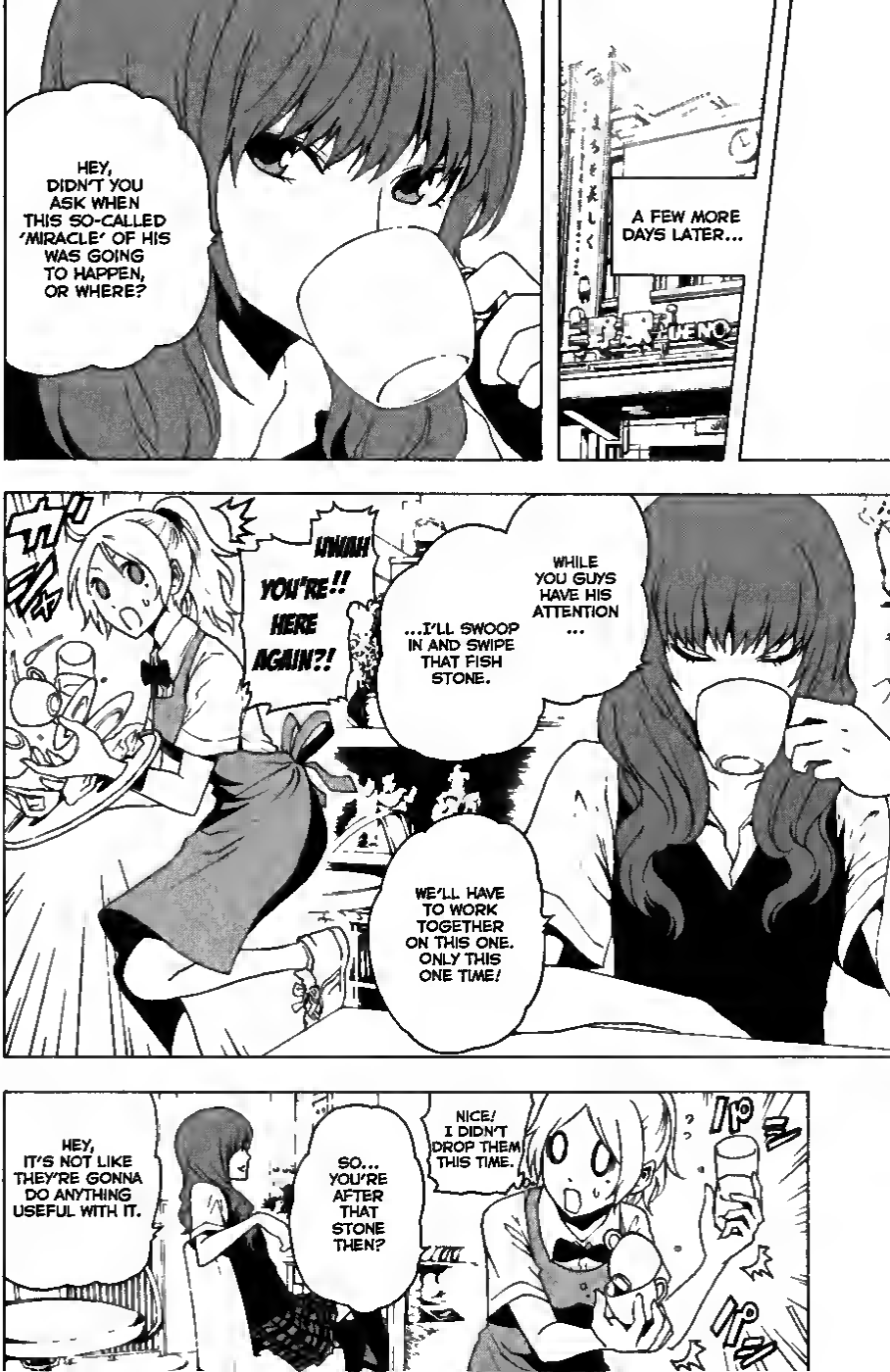
...REALLY BEEN MYSELF LATELY...
I HAVEN'T ...

WITH ALL THAT'S HAPPENED LATELY, ONE AFTER ANOTHER...
I HAVE A WHOLE BUNCH OF THINGS I WANT TO KNOW TOO...

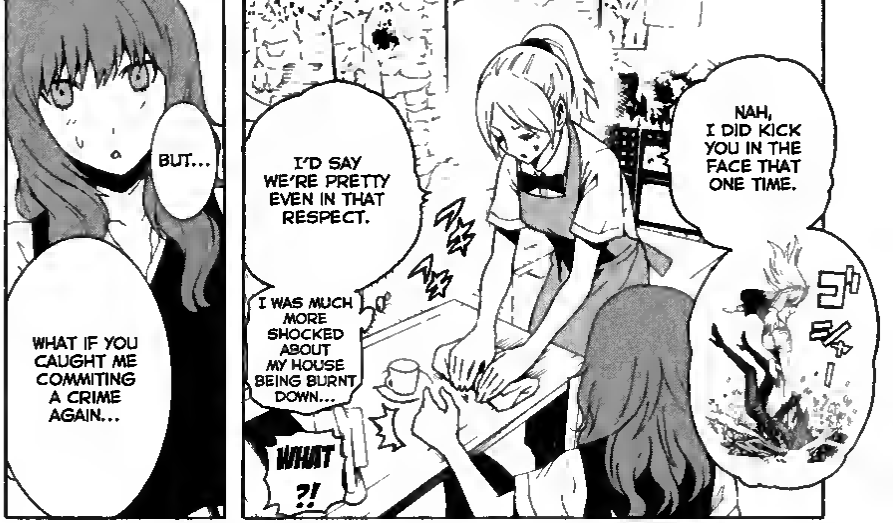

...I FEEL LIKE I CAN RELAX.

WHEN I'M WITH HIM...

WHY DO YOU FIGHT?
PERHAPS BECAUSE OF YOUR FEELINGS FOR KYOUTAROU?
I THINK...
...I JUST WANT TO HELP AZUMA.
AZUMA...
I WONDER WHAT HE THINKS OF ME...
.....
...AND WHAT ABOUT HER..?


HEY, DIDN'T YOU ASK WHEN THIS SO-CALLED 'MIRACLE' OF HIS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN, OR WHERE?
A FEW MORE DAYS LATER...
UENO
WHILE YOU GUYS HAVE HIS ATTENTION...
...I'LL SWOOP IN AND SWIPE THAT FISH STONE.
UWAH! YOU'RE!! HERE AGAIN?!
WE'LL HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER ON THIS ONE. ONLY THIS ONE TIME!
NICE! I DIDN'T DROP THEM THIS TIME.
SO... YOU'RE AFTER THAT STONE THEN?
HEY, IT'S NOT LIKE THEY'RE GONNA DO ANYTHING USEFUL WITH IT.

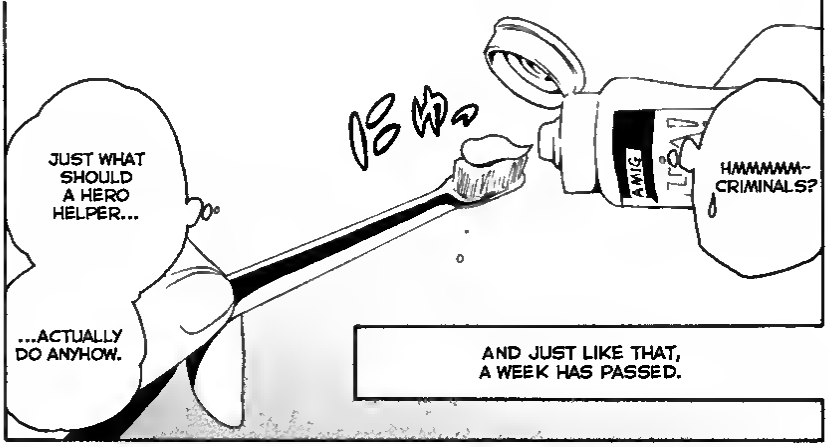
I'M GRATEFUL YOU'RE WILLING TO COOPERATE...
...BUT COULD YOU DROP THE STEALING ACT ALREADY ...
YOU DO REALIZE MY DAD WON'T BE VERY HAPPY WHEN HE FINDS OUT, RIGHT?
AND ...
...I AM A THIEF BY TRADE.
I'VE GOT MY OWN AFFAIRS TO WORRY ABOUT TOO YOU KNOW...
WHAT !?
MY PRINCE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU !!
SHE SPILLED IT...
LIKE I'VE BEEN TELLING YOU, THAT'S MY FATHER...
IF YOU'RE GONNA BE LIKE THAT...
...WHY DON'T YOU TELL HIM WHO I REALLY AM ALREADY?
YOU PROBABLY HATE ME FOR BEATING YOU TO A PULP BEFORE ANYWAYS!
NO MATTER WHAT YOU DECIDE TO DO WITH YOURSELF ...
..JUST NEVER BREAK THE LAW.


BUT...
WHAT IF YOU CAUGHT ME COMMITING A CRIME AGAIN...
I'D SAY WE'RE PRETTY EVEN IN THAT RESPECT.
I WAS MUCH MORE SHOCKED ABOUT MY HOUSE BEING BURNT DOWN...
WHAT ?!
NAH, I DID KICK YOU IN THE FACE THAT ONE TIME.
ゴシャー

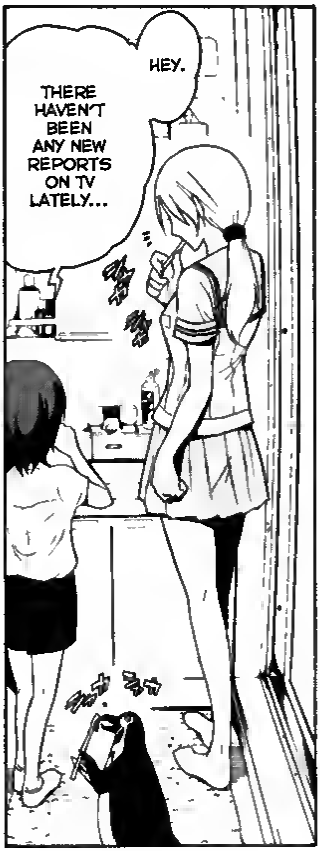
THEN WE'D FIGHT AGAIN...
NOT LIKE I'M THE POLICE OR ANYTHING THOUGH...
ハハハ

SO WE'RE TIED AT THE MOMENT THEN.
INTRIG-UING...

.....
NO REGRETS, THAT KIND OF THING ...
OF COURSE I'D TREAT YOU WELL ...
FORGET IT...
DAMNIT ...
HEY!!
DON'T EAT AND RUN!!!
MANAGER
OH, DID YOUR FRIEND LEAVE?
WHERE IS THE MONEY?


JUST WHAT SHOULD A HERO HELPER...
...ACTUALLY DO ANYHOW.
にゅっ
AMIG
HMMMMM~ CRIMINALS?
AND JUST LIKE THAT, A WEEK HAS PASSED.

BUT IF THERE IS ONE...
...TAKE ME WITH YOU WHEN YOU GO.


HEY.
THERE HAVEN'T BEEN ANY NEW REPORTS ON TV LATELY...

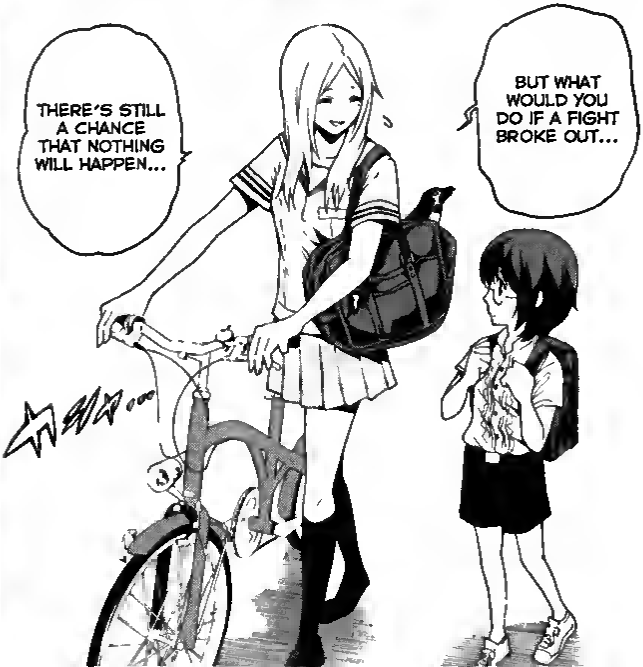
HUH?
MAYBE I'LL BE ABLE TO HELP YOU SOMEHOW.

WAIT FOR THE SUSPECT TO MOVE FIRST.
EVERYONE IS IN POSITION.

THERE SHE IS!

STAY ON GUARD.
ARE YOU SURE IT'S REALLY HER?
SHE'S GOT ONE HELL OF A KICK ON HER...
ALL I HEARD WAS THAT SHE'S A NICE, HARD-WORKING GIRL.

PARDON...


THERE'S STILL A CHANCE THAT NOTHING WILL HAPPEN...
BUT WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF A FIGHT BROKE OUT...

……!?
ガ!!
YOU ARE URUSHIBA RINKA, ARE YOU NOT..?
I'M FIRST DIVISION INVESTIGATOR NABESHIMA.
I HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS FOR YOU ABOUT THE "GIRL IN WHITE".
警視庁
警視庁

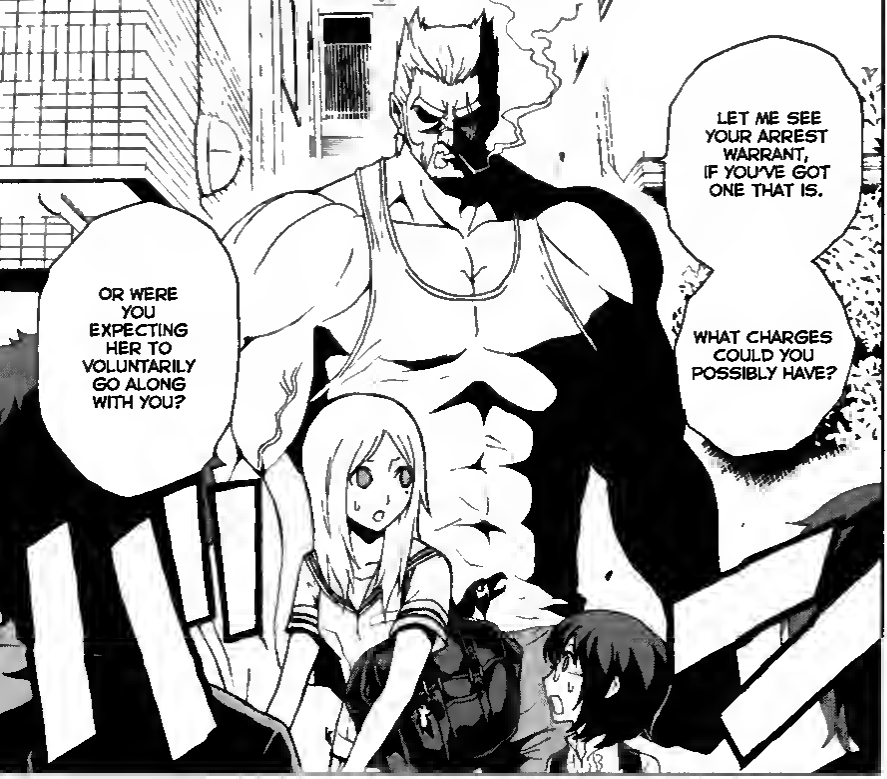
...IF YOU'D COME BACK WITH US TO THE DEPARTMENT.
WE'D APPRECIATE ...

P-POLICE?!
TODAY OF ALL DAYS...
WHY?! HOW DID THEY FIND OUT?!

SHE'S GOTTA BE THE ONE...
NO MISTAKE ...

WAIT... THIS IS LIKE... REALLY BAD, ISN'T IT?!

WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS FIRST THING IN THE MORNING...
HEY NOW, YOU'LL UPSET THE NEIGHBORS ...


LET ME SEE YOUR ARREST WARRANT, IF YOU'VE GOT ONE THAT IS.
WHAT CHARGES COULD YOU POSSIBLY HAVE?
OR WERE YOU EXPECTING HER TO VOLUNTARILY GO ALONG WITH YOU?

URUSHIBA... I THOUGHT IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN YOUR DAUGHTER...
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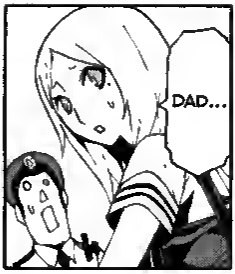
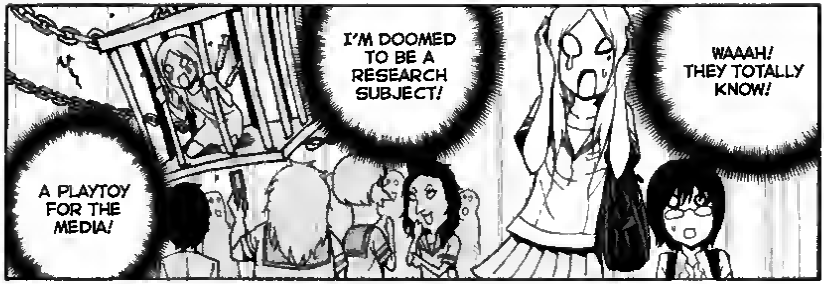

DAD...

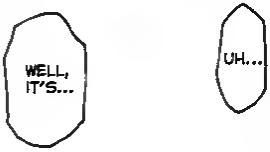
IT'S BEEN AWHILE, NABESHIMA.
DON'T YOU THINK...
...THIS IS A BIT MUCH FOR JUST A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL?

NOT AT ALL...
THIS ISN'T EVEN CLOSE TO ENOUGH TO HANDLE SOMEONE THAT CAN USE THAT ESP CRAP!
ACTUALLY, I'VE HAD THIS GIRL SLIP THROUGH MY FINGERS AGAIN AND AGAIN!

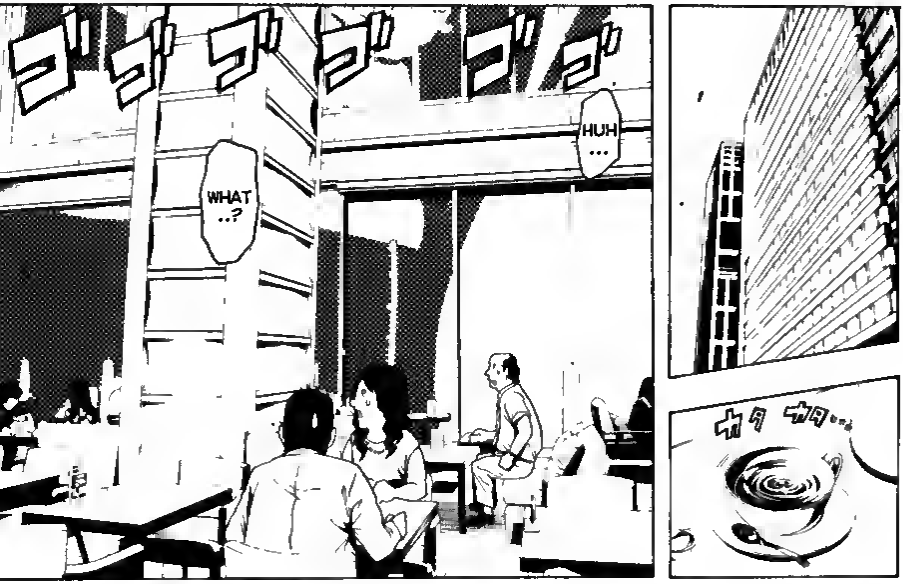

I'M DOOMED TO BE A RESEARCH SUBJECT!
WAAAH! THEY TOTALLY KNOW!
A PLAYTOY FOR THE MEDIA!

NABESHIMA, WE JUST GOT WORD FROM THE OFFICE...
WHAT IS IT? I'M BUSY RIGHT NOW.

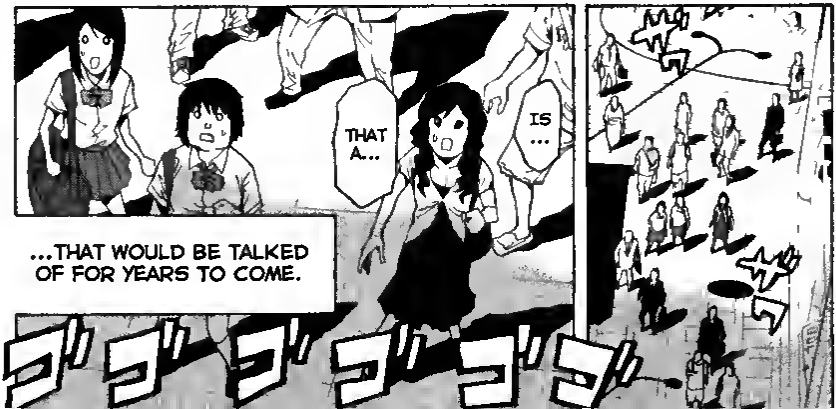
MY LIFE IS OFFICIALLY OVER...


UH...
WELL, IT'S...

I'VE NEVER HEARD OF A HERO.. WHO GETS TAKEN IN BY THE POLICE...



BUT AS CHANCE WOULD HAVE IT... IT WAS THE SAME DAY AS THE EVENT...



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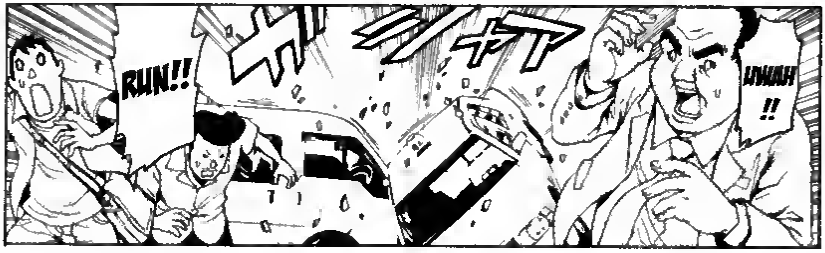
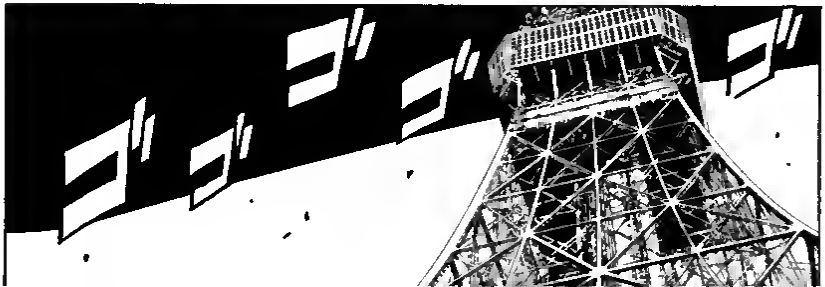
WILL IT FALL ?
AAAH !!
AN AIR-SHIP ?!
IT'S FLOATING ABOVE US!


RUN!!
UWAH !!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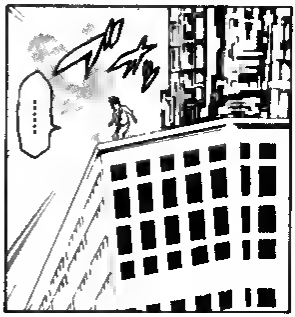
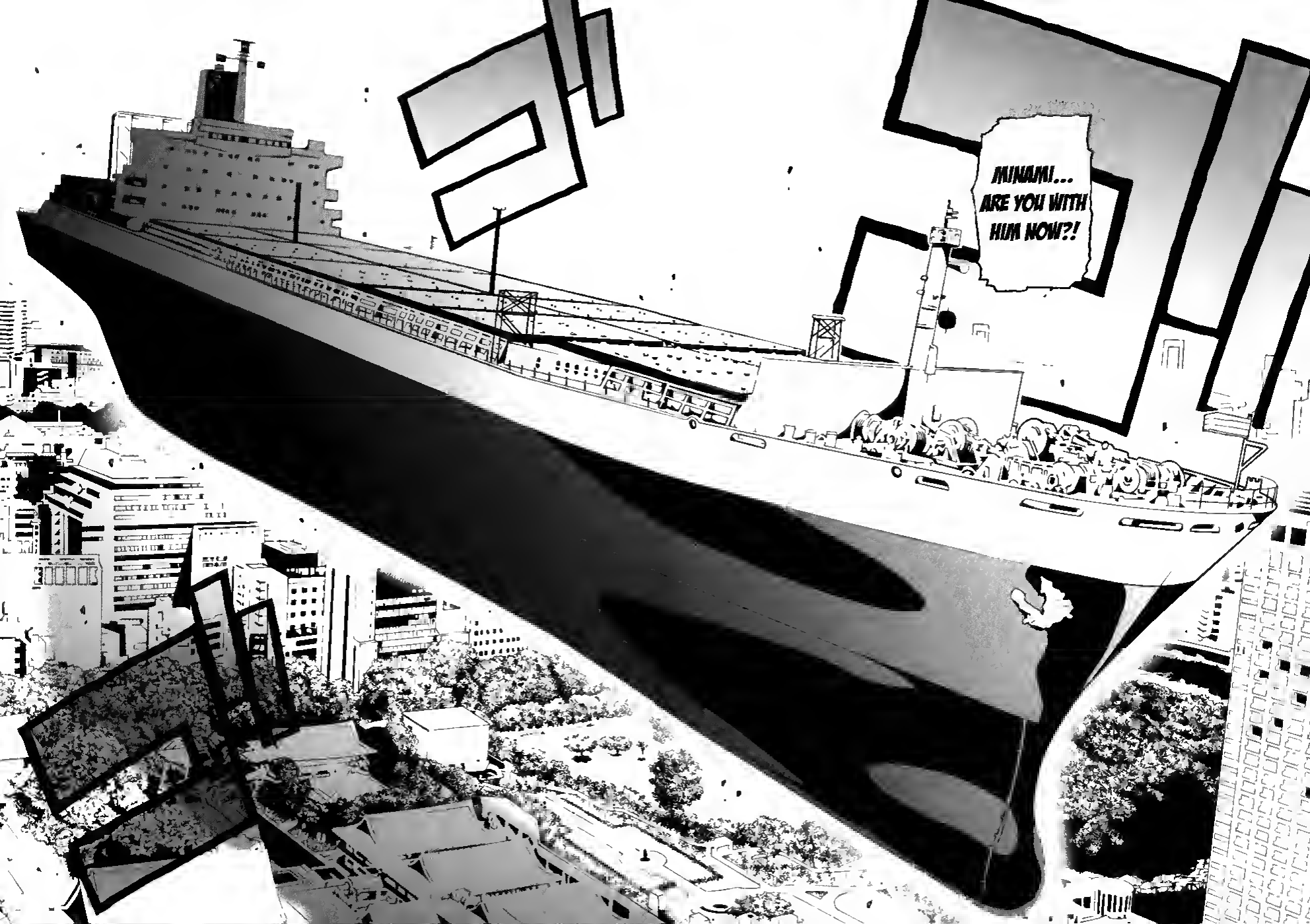
CAW CAW !!
CAW!

COME ON RINKA...
PICK UP!
RING RING


.....

...THIS IS ONLY AN ILLUSION TOO?
ARE YOU TELLING ME...

...PROF-ESSOR !?
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU PLANNING...


MINAMI...
ARE YOU WITH
HIM NOW?!

SCENE 11 /// END

THIS COUNTRY IS DONE FOR...
WE CAN'T HAVE YOU DYING HERE THOUGH...
SCENE 12 // FLYING TANKER TERRORISTS
...IN THE CREATION OF OUR NEW WORLD.
YOU HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY...

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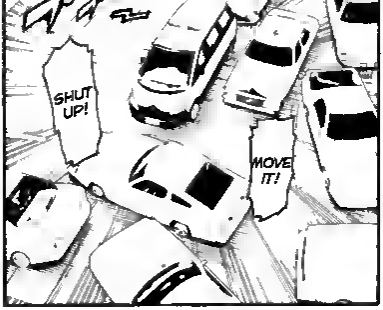
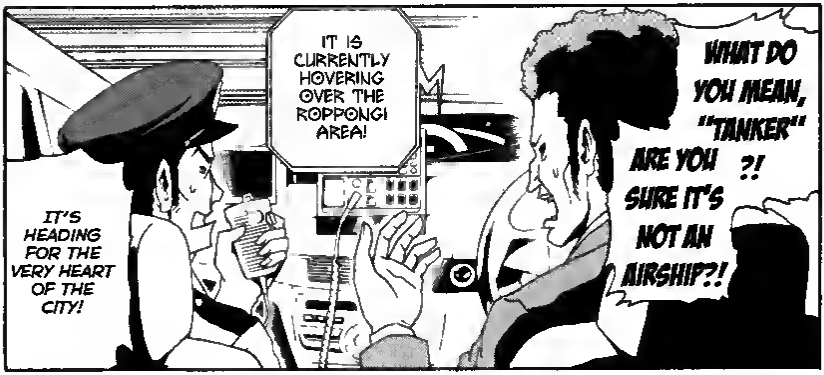
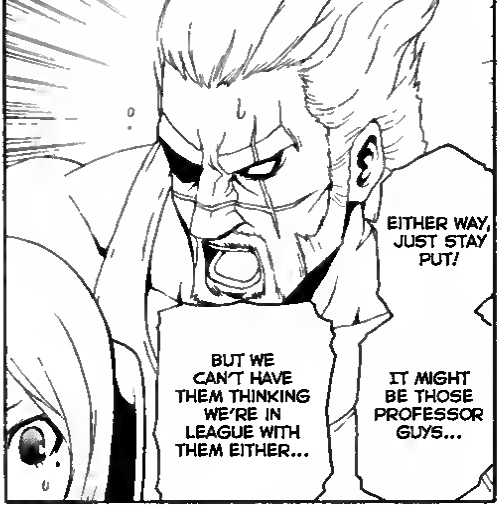
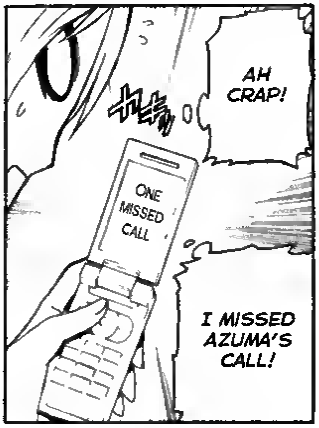
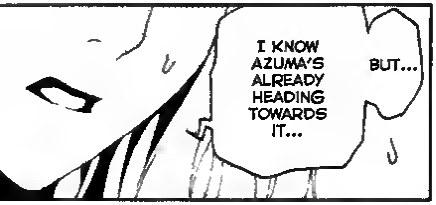

SHUT UP!
MOVE IT!


IT IS CURRENTLY HOVERING OVER THE ROPPONGI AREA!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "TANKER" ?! ARE YOU SURE IT'S NOT AN AIRSHIP?!
IT'S HEADING FOR THE VERY HEART OF THE CITY!

WHY DID YOU GET IN THE CAR?!
W-WHAT'S GOING ON...
THIS IS UNBELIEVABLE... HOW IN THE WORLD DO WE STOP THIS THING...
I WANTED TO HEAR WHAT'S GOING ON..!
AND WHAT ABOUT YOU?
KWEH!
WHY DID YOU GET IN?


EITHER WAY, JUST STAY PUT!
BUT WE CAN'T HAVE THEM THINKING WE'RE IN LEAGUE WITH THEM EITHER...
IT MIGHT BE THOSE PROFESSOR GUYS...


AH CRAP!
ONE MISSED CALL
I MISSED AZUMA'S CALL!


I KNOW AZUMA'S ALREADY HEADING TOWARDS IT...
BUT...

.....

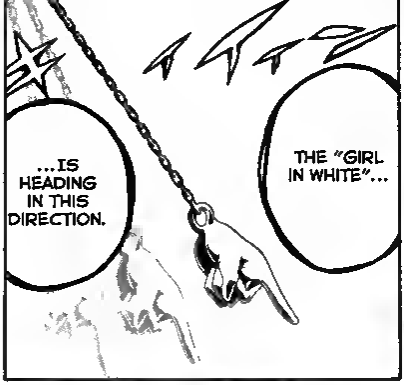
SORRY...
THE POLICE WERE GOING TO CHASE AFTER ME ANYWAYS...

GET GOING! YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ME ...
RINKA...

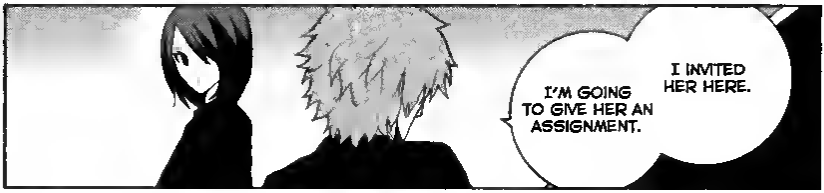
PROMISE ME...
...THAT YOU'LL NEVER...
...ABANDON ME AGAIN LIKE THAT.

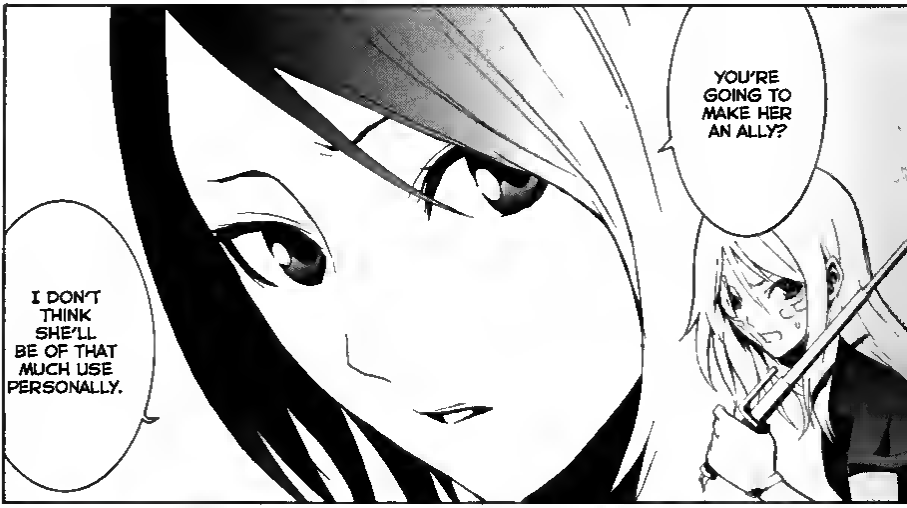
THR-
OUGH
THE
ROOF!
WHA
..!
I'LL BE
RIGHT
BACK!

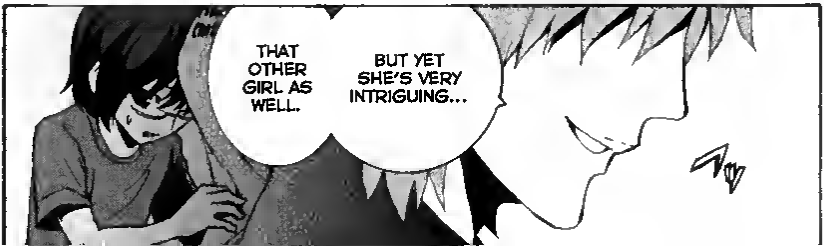
THIS SONG HOLDS MANY MEMORIES FOR ME AS WELL...
...AND TODAY IS THE ANNIVERSARY OF HER DEATH.
MOTHER ALWAYS PLAYED THAT...
THIS SONG...


...IS HEADING IN THIS DIRECTION.
THE "GIRL IN WHITE"...

IT'S TIME...


I'M GOING TO GIVE HER AN ASSIGNMENT.
I INVITED HER HERE.


YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE HER AN ALLY?
I DON'T THINK SHE'LL BE OF THAT MUCH USE PERSONALLY.


THAT OTHER GIRL AS WELL.
BUT YET SHE'S VERY INTRIGUING...

WELL, EVEN IF SHE DOESN'T JOIN US...
...SHE WILL BECOME NECESSARY ...
...FOR KYOUTAROU.
...?
YOU WILL UNDERSTAND IN TIME...
ゴゴ
ゴゴ

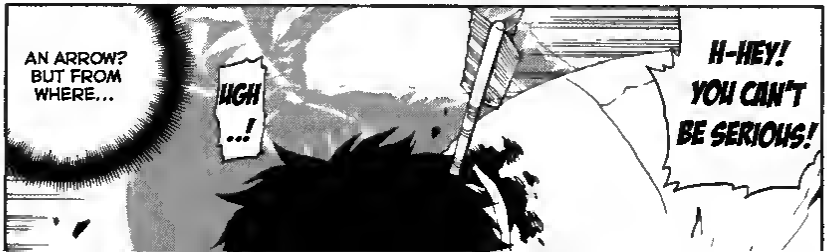
SEEMS ...
...THIS THING IS THE REAL DEAL AFTERALL ...
SHOULD I REALLY BE WORKING TOGETHER WITH HER?
EITHER WAY, LET'S HURRY ...
LET'S SEE IF ANYONE IS AROUND...
IF I CAN GET MY HANDS ON THAT STONE THOUGH, I'M HIGH TAILING IT OUT OF HERE.
WHAT DO YOU WANT UP HERE ANYHOW...

...WE'RE GOING TO SMACK RIGHT INTO THAT CLUSTER OF BULIDINGS IN SHINJUKU.
IF WE KEEP GOING AT THIS HEIGHT...
...TO CHANGE IT'S COURSE IMMEDIATELY!
BZZT
TELL THAT FLOATING VESSEL...
THE HELI-COPTER ...!
GWAH!

GAH ..!

AZU-HA!

!!


AN ARROW? BUT FROM WHERE...
UGH ..!
H-HEY! YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!

IT MISSED HIS ARTERY..!
COUGH
HEY! HANG IN THERE!

.....!?

DAM-NIT!
THAT CAME OUT OF NO-WHERE!

WEREN'T YOU LOOKING FOR US..?
WHERE WILL YOU GO?

IT'S BEEN AWHILE, KYOUTAROU...
!!!!!!

THE PROF-ESSOR!!
UGH ...

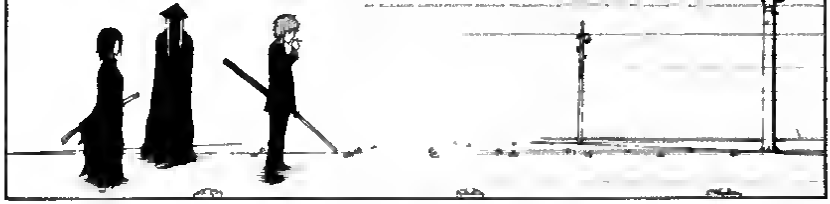
IS THIS REALLY...
...THE SAME MAN..?

...ISN'T THIS HOW WE FIRST MET? YOU GROVELING BEFORE ME.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...

YOUR EYES MAY BE OPEN BUT YOU SEE NOTHING
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS ...
MINAMI...
I...
ALWAYS ...
THOUGHT ...YOU WERE A SINCERE PERSON ...
!
NOW, AND BACK THEN AS WELL.
...MY WOUND!

ドン
!!

AGGHH!!
KOBU-SHI!!
DOWSING?!
...YOU THINK THAT ONE'S REAL?
SO...
DAMNIT... HE'S TOYING WITH US...
I SHOULD HAVE COME ALONE!
YOU'RE ALREADY TRAPPED IN MY ILLUSION.
THERE IS NO ESCAPE.
GWAAH!
WHA..!?
I GUESS WE SHOULD RETREAT FOR NOW!



!?

I KNOW I JUMPED FARTHER THAN THIS..!
.....!

MY ABILITY LETS ME CONTROL OTHERS BY MAKING THEM HALLUCINATE...
DIDN'T RINKA SAY ANYTHING?

SO WHATEVER YOU ENVISION RIGHT BEFORE YOU TELEPORT...
...I CAN COVER IT UP, JUST LIKE THAT.
HMMM
ACTUALLY, GO HERE
LET'S GO HOME

SO EVEN IF YOU KNOW IT'S A HALLU-CINATION ...
...YOU STILL CAN'T GET OUT.
NU-AHH !!

FROM THE VERY FIRST DAY...
...YOU'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE...
...TO RECOGNIZE ME FOR WHO I REALLY AM.
NO...
THERE'S NO WAY...

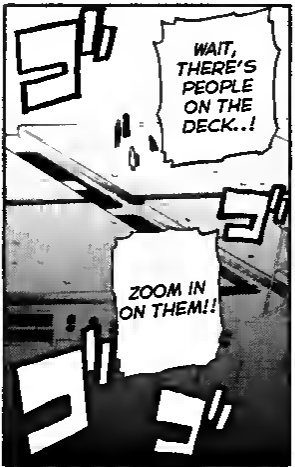
MINAMI, DON'T DO IT!
KILL HER.
I'VE NO NEED FOR THE THIEF...

AZUMA
!!
ハッ
ズッ

THERE SHE IS... URUSHIBA RINKA.
RIN-KA!
RINK...
.....!!

ゴゴゴゴ

JUST GET EVERYONE EVACUATED NOW!
WHAT DID THE FLIGHT TEAM SAY ?!
WAS ANYONE HURT?
THE HELI-COPTER WAS SHOT DOWN!
ウーン
IT'S GOING TO CRASH INTO THE BUILDINGS!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WAIT, THERE'S PEOPLE ON THE DECK..!
ZOOM IN ON THEM!!
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WE CAN'T GET ANY CLOSER!
WE'VE GOT AN ORDER TO PULL OUT!
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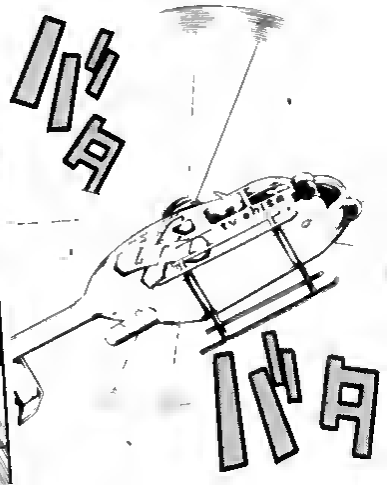
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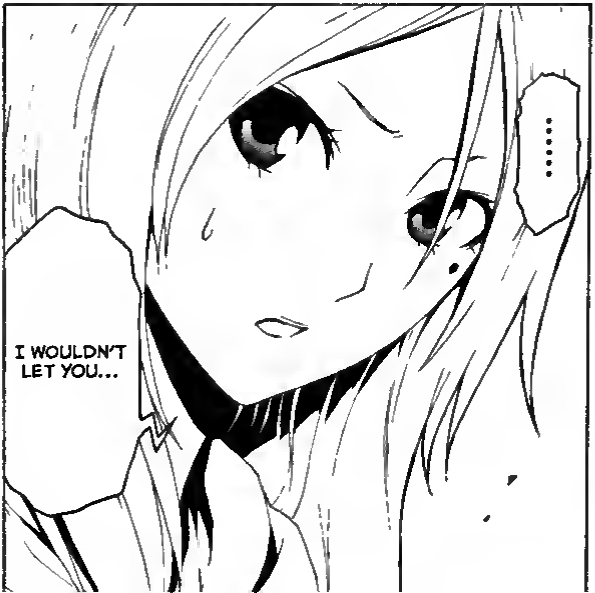
ARE HEY! YOU TWO OKAY?
SHE'S BEEN SHOT IN THE SHOULDER.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME...
TAKE KOBUSHI AND GET OUT OF HERE ON PEGGI.
IT'S REALLY STUCK IN THERE!
IT WON'T BUDGE ..!
I'LL MAKE THE PROF-ESSOR SEE THINGS OUR WAY SOMEHOW...
I CAN'T JUST LEAVE THINGS AS THEY ARE!
.....
...WHAT ABOUT YOU?
BUT...

THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NOTHING YOU CAN DO WITH YOUR POWERS.
IMPOS-SIBLE.

...AND ABOUT THIS WORLD OF OURS AS WELL...
YOU COULD EVEN CONSIDER THIS A LESSON TO TEACH YOU THAT VERY THING...

AND IF I SAID I WAS GOING TO DROP IT?

THIS MAN... HE FEELS DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE...
STOP THE SHIP...
WHAT WERE YOU PLANNING TO DO WITH IT?


.....
I WOULDN'T LET YOU...

WELL, EVEN IF SHE DOESN'T JOIN US...
...SHE WILL BECOME NECESSARY FOR KYOU-TAROU.
YOU ALMOST SOUND LIKE A HERO OR SOMETHING, TALKING LIKE THAT...
...BLINDLY SHOWING UP TO INTERFERE WITH OUR PLANS.
...WITH NO RESOLUTION OR MOTIVE...
A BITCH...
WE CAN'T LET SUCH AN EYESORE LIKE YOU...
...ROAM FREE ANY LONGER!

!!

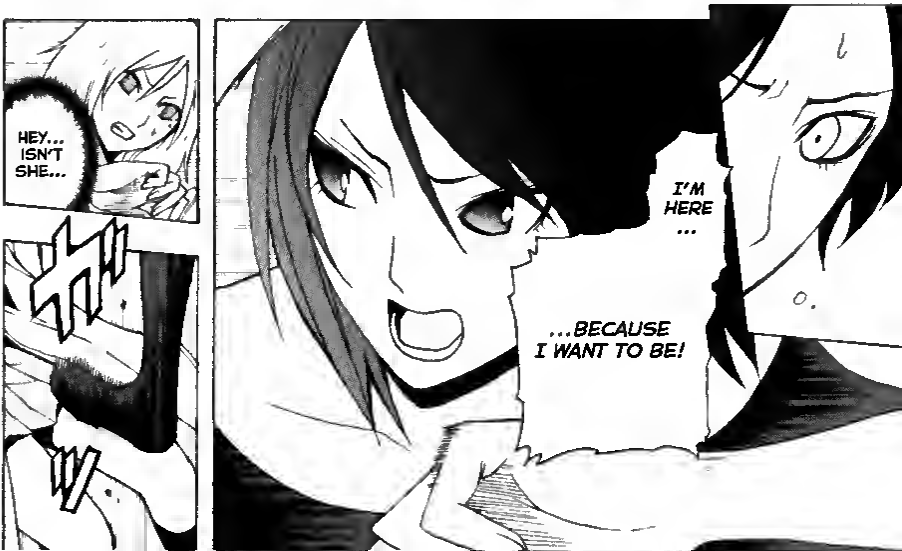
GAH!

AH
...
WAIT!

UW-
AH
!!
WHA
!!
CUT IT OUT, MINAMI !!
WHAT'S THE POINT OF THAT..!
COME TO YOUR SENSES!
YOU'RE BEING CONTROLLED BY HIM...
THE POINT ..?

UGH!!

...AND YOU THINK YOU KNOW IT ALL NOW?!
ONE LITTLE YEAR ON YOUR OWN...


HEY... ISN'T SHE...
I'M HERE ...
...BECAUSE I WANT TO BE!

UGH!
SHE WAS STRONG TO BEGIN WITH!!
KWSH!
NONE OF THAT NOW!
PEGAH!!

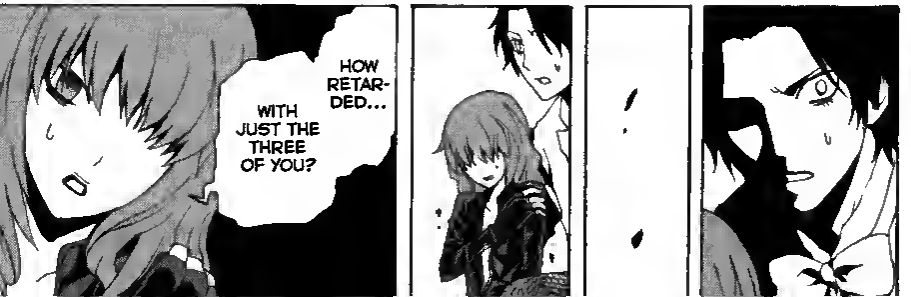
PEGGI, CALM DOWN!
IT'S ONLY AN ILLUSION !!
GWEH!
SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE SHOW.
DON'T RUIN OUR ENTERTAINMENT.

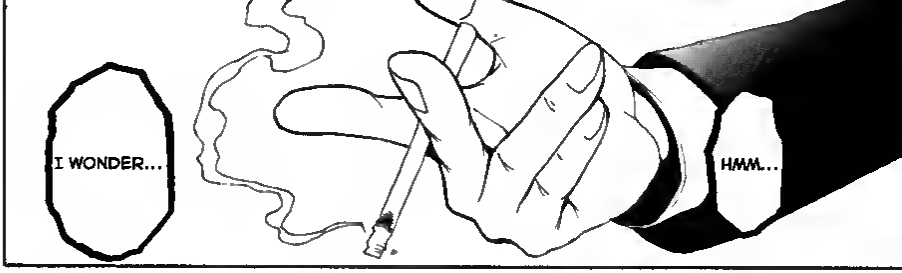
WHAT GOOD IS THIS CHADS GOING TO BRING TO ANYONE..!
...AWAKEN THE ABILITIES IN OTHERS SO INDISCRIMINATELY..?!
WHY...

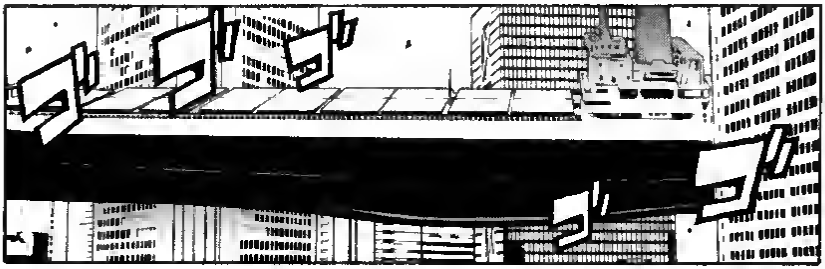
BUT TO MAKE IT HAPPEN...
...WE HAVE TO ERASE ALL THE CURRENT VALUES OF SOCIETY FIRST.
THE "NEW WORLD", OF COURSE.

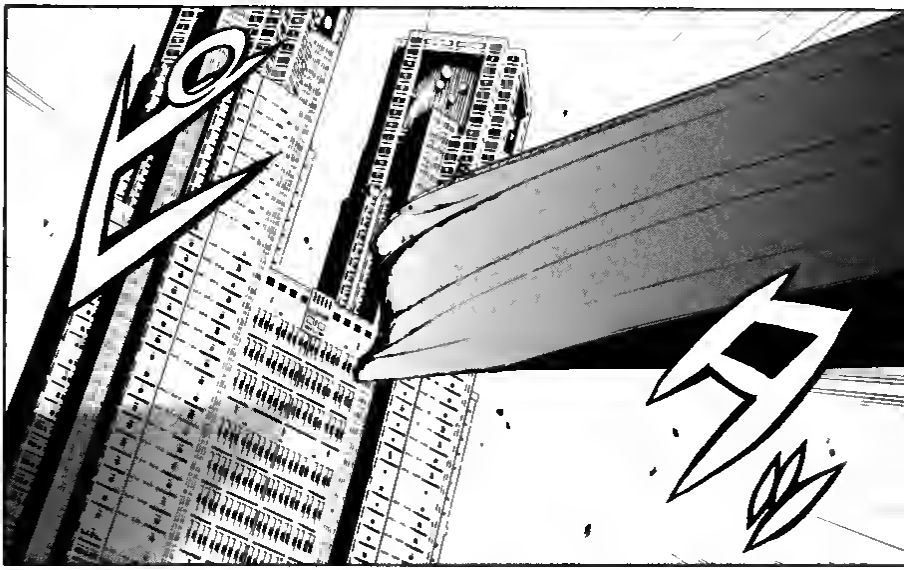
...WORLD ?!
NEW...

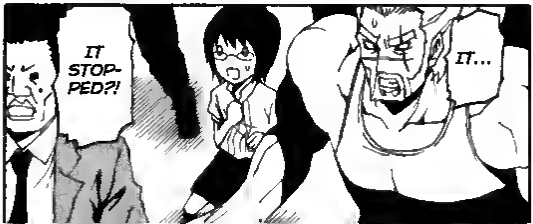
IT'S EVOLUTION. KYOUTAROU...
NOW IS THE TIME...
...FOR THOSE THAT TRANSCEND BEYOND MERE HUMANS TO RULE!

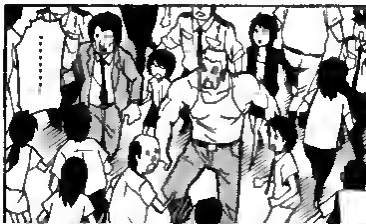

HOW RETARDED...
WITH JUST THE THREE OF YOU?
!


I WONDER...
HMM...






IT STOPPED?!
IT...


.....

ATTENTION ALL OF HUMANITY!
THIS IMAGE BEFORE YOUR VERY EYES...
...IS NO TRICK!
WE ARE ESPERS!
WHA ...!

I DON'T KNOW! EVERY CHANNEL IS THE SAME..!
IS IT FROM THE OUT-SIDE?!
OPRESSED AT EVERY TURN BY COMMON SENSE AND SCIENCE...
WHAT IS THIS ?!
WHO IS THIS GUY!?
...WILL BE UNLOCKED BY US!
LOOK, DEAR!
...THE TRUE POTENTIAL OF HUMANITY...
WE'VE COME TO GATHER OUR COMRADES!

IF I DON'T GET SERIOUS, SHE'S NEVER GONNA STOP...
THIS IS BAD ...
AND...
!!
GWAH !!

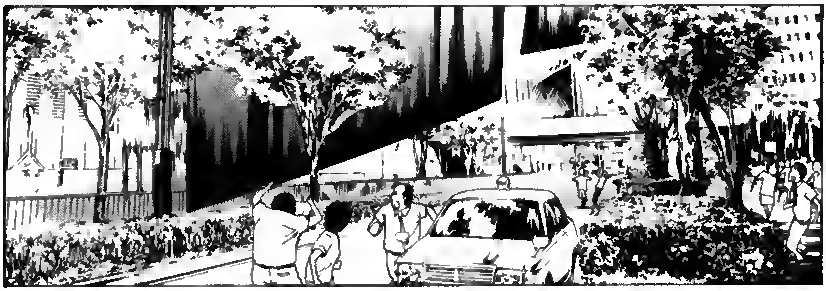
I CAN'T FOLLOW HER MOVE-MENTS!
KUH!
AGHH!!
AT THIS RATE...
...I'M DONE FOR...

IS IT THEIR THIRST FOR BLOOD?!
I CAN'T MOVE...
RINKA!!
I KNOW ...
...I'M NOT THIS DAMN WEAK!
SO PATHETIC...
GGR ..!
SHIT!
WOAA AAAA !!!

...REAQCUISITIONED AS...
...WE'LL HAVE SHINJUKU ...

BY THE WAY, THE ONE KEEPING THIS SHIP AFLOAT...
...IS A COMRADE OF OURS.
IT'S THE SAME ABILITY AS THAT PENGUIN OF YOURS.
BUT THEN AGAIN, YOUR ABILITES...
...ARE NOTHING COMPARED TO OURS...
THE WAY YOU ARE NOW...
...YOU COULD NEVER EVEN COME CLOSE TO US.

RINKA
!!



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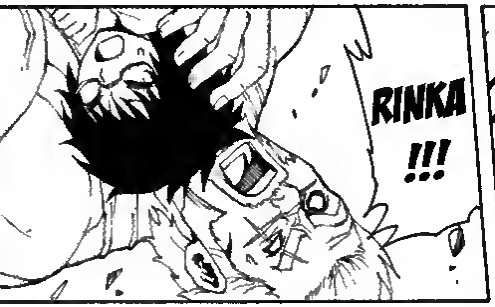

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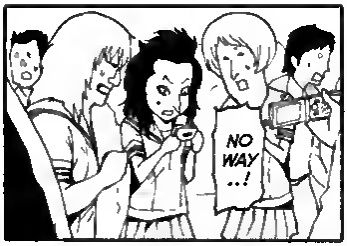
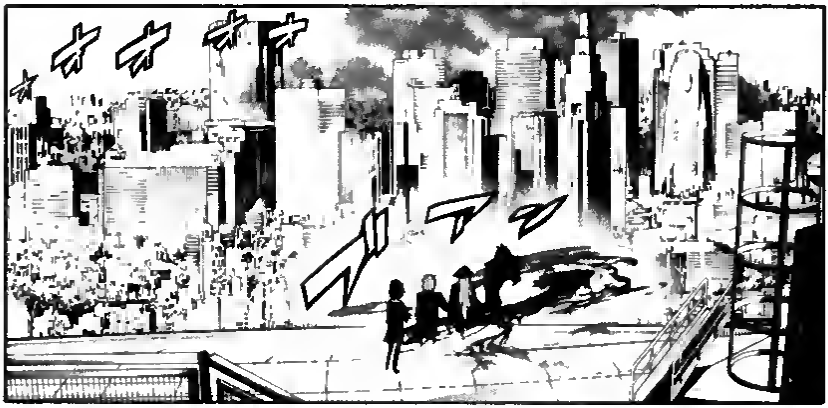
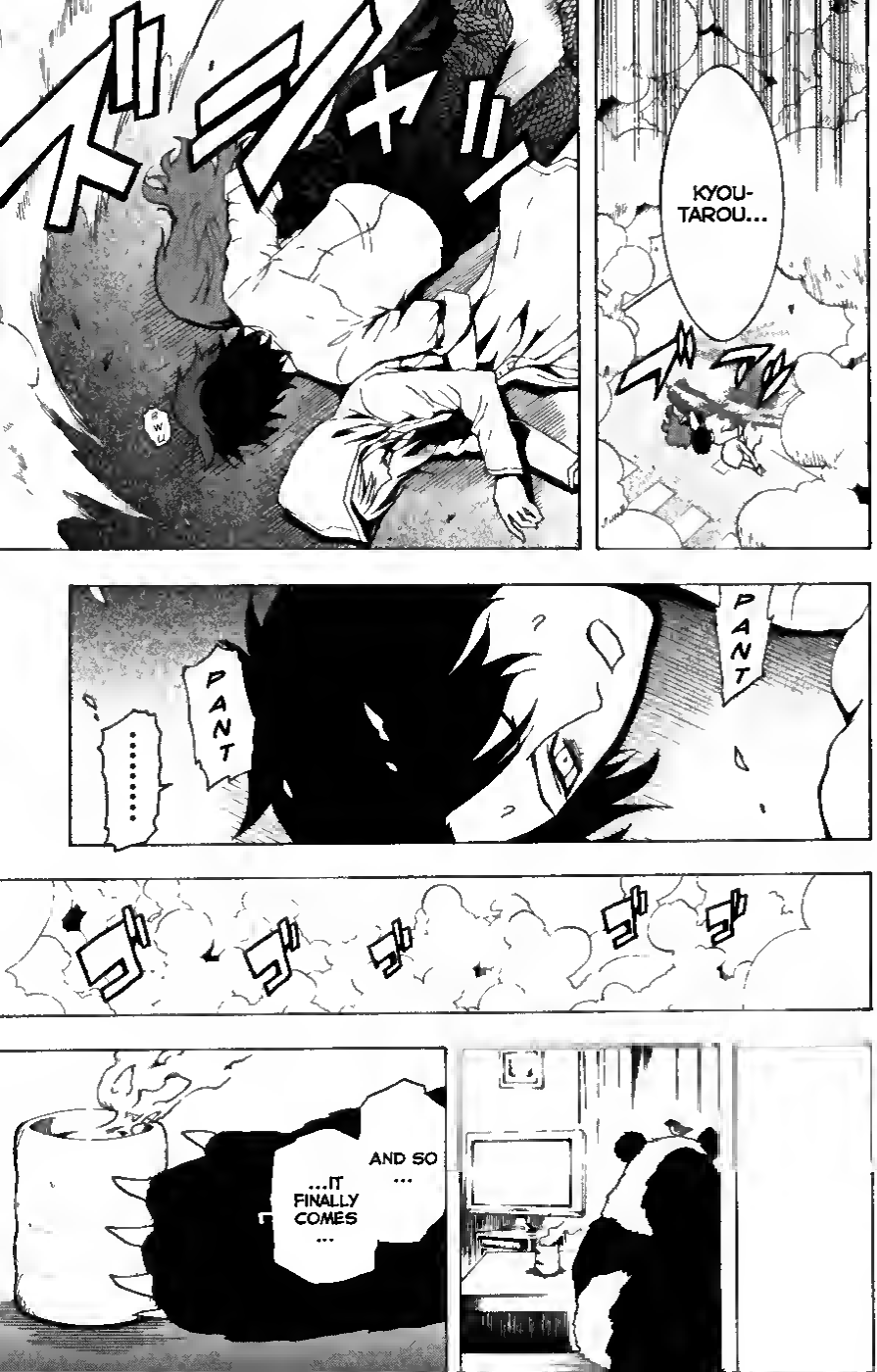
PRIME MINI-STER ..!


NO WAY ..!

IT FELL!
YOU RECOR-DING THIS?!



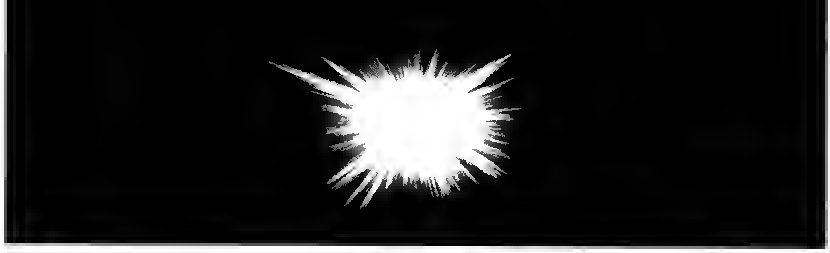
THIS IS THE BEGINNING...

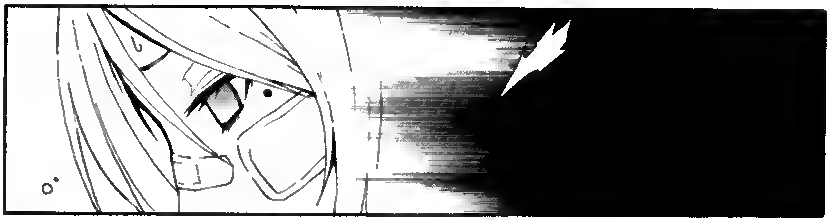

KYOU-
TAROU...
PANT
PANT
AND SO
...
...IT
FINALLY
COMES
...

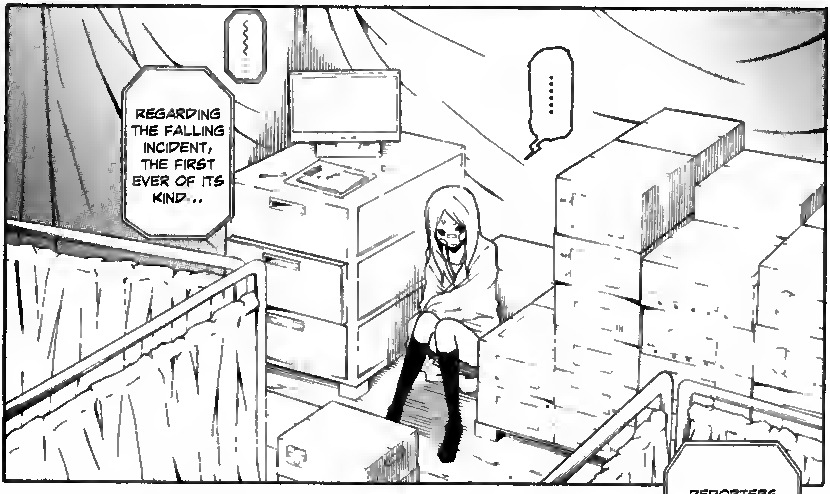
SCENE 12 /// END

Scene 13 /// Pandarion arrives

...ACTUALLY BE LOSING TO A KICK!
I CAN'T...
ズ!!
ズ!!






REGARDING THE FALLING INCIDENT, THE FIRST EVER OF ITS KIND...
.....
REPORTERS ACROSS THE GLOBE ARE PICKING UP ON THE STORY...
...THERE HAS YET TO BE AN OFFICIAL RELEASE FROM THE GOVERNMENT AS TO THE CAUSE OF THE DISASTER
...AND AS WE APPROACH THE THIRD DAY AFTER THE DISASTER...

OVER 200 SUSTAINED INJURIES AND 42 FATALITIES HAVE BEEN REPORTED...
THE SEARCH FOR THE MISSING STILL CONTINUES ON.
THERE'S STILL DANGER OF COLLAPSING RUBBLE AT THE SITE...
RESCUE WORKERS ARE SEARCHING WITHOUT REST FOR ANY SURVIVORS AMONG THE DISTRESS.

I HEAR SOMETHING DOWN BELOW!
GET THAT NEWS HELICOPTER OUT OF HERE!

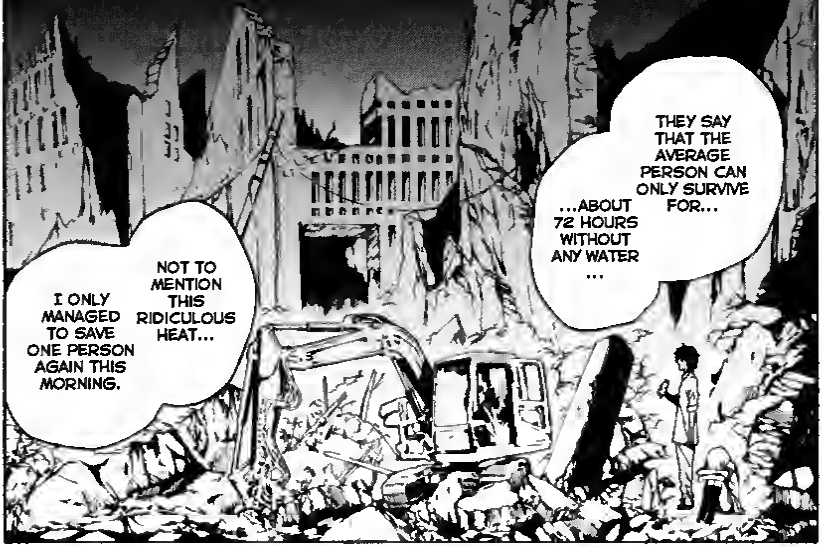
PLEASE FIND HIM! HURRY!!
HAVEN'T YOU FOUND MY BOY YET?!
IT'S DANGEROUS HERE! PLEASE STEP BACK!

WHA!
I'LL GO LOOK!
UH...
THERE!!
OKAY ...
FIND MORE IF YOU CAN!
GOT IT!
HE'S STILL ALIVE!!
ABOUT 3 METERS DOWN!

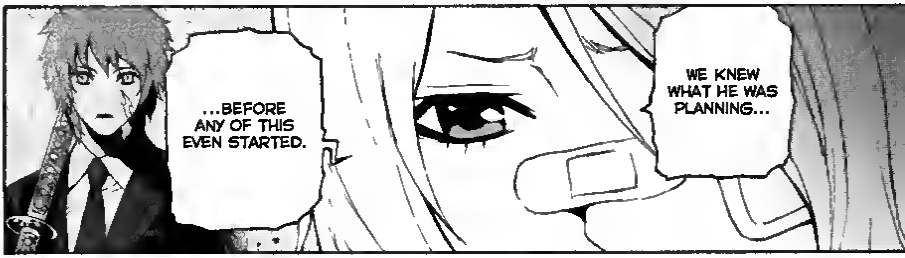
I'VE NO IDEA WHAT SHE IS...
BUT FOR THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS...
...MORE THAN HALF OF THE SURVIVORS WE'VE FOUND ARE BECAUSE OF HER HELP!
HEY! WHAT WAS THAT...
WHAT THE HELL! DID SHE JUST SINK DOWN INTO THE GROUND?!
WE SHOULD JUST ACCEPT HER HELP FOR NOW...
THAT GUY AS WELL...
ゴゴゴ
I'LL GATHER THE RUBBLE!
LOOK AND SEE IF ANYTHING ELSE IS ABOUT TO COLLAPSE!

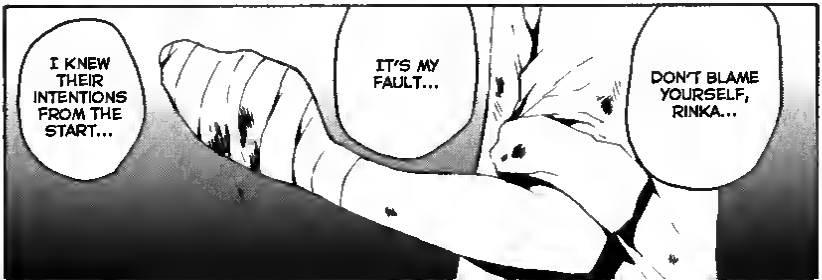
TELL ME WHERE THE HOSPITAL IS!
I'LL TAKE HIM!
GET A HELI-COPTER !!
THIS MAN NEEDS TREATMENT RIGHT AWAY!
PANT
!!
PANT
IS ANYONE DOWN HERE?

I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
I NEVER THOUGHT IT'D TURN INTO SOMETHING LIKE THIS.

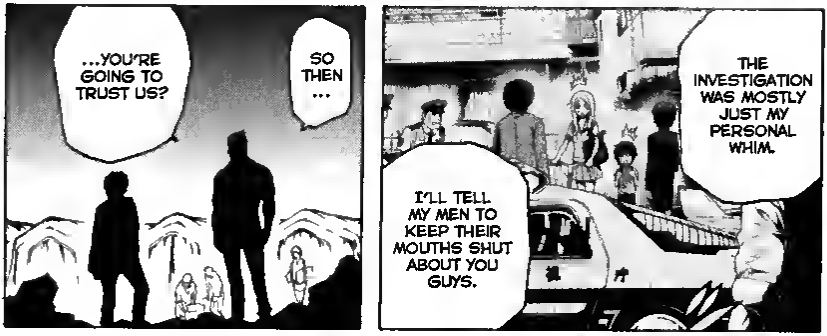

THEY SAY THAT THE AVERAGE PERSON CAN ONLY SURVIVE FOR...
...ABOUT 72 HOURS WITHOUT ANY WATER ...
NOT TO MENTION THIS RIDICULOUS HEAT...
I ONLY MANAGED TO SAVE ONE PERSON AGAIN THIS MORNING.

I GUESS THIS IS AS FAR AS...
...OUR ESP GOES.

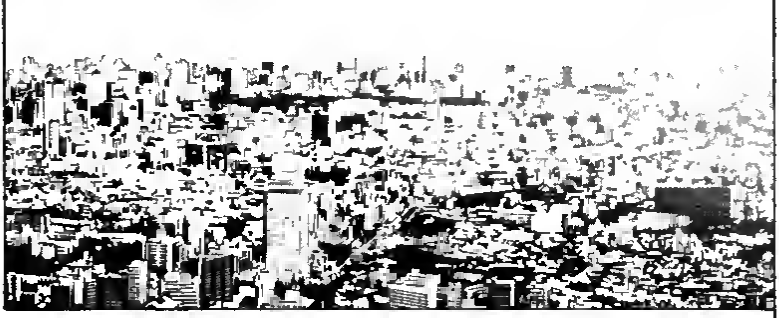

WE KNEW WHAT HE WAS PLANNING...
...BEFORE ANY OF THIS EVEN STARTED.

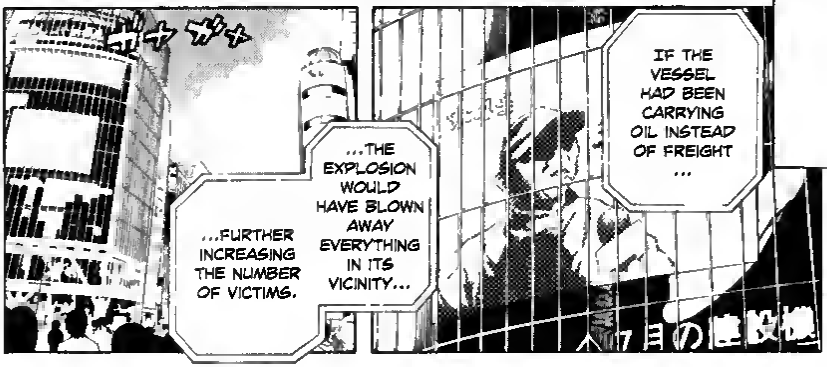

I KNEW THEIR INTENTIONS FROM THE START...
IT'S MY FAULT...
DON'T BLAME YOURSELF, RINKA...

THIS IS NO TIME FOR THAT ...
THE HIGHER-UPS WOULDN'T EVEN LISTEN TO ME ABOUT ESP...
NOT EVEN A FEW DAYS AGO.
YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT WITH ME THAT I DON'T CARE ABOUT...
BUT PLEASE OVERLOOK MY DAUGHTER AT THE VERY LEAST...


...YOU'RE GOING TO TRUST US?
SO THEN ...
THE INVESTIGATION WAS MOSTLY JUST MY PERSONAL WHIM.
I'LL TELL MY MEN TO KEEP THEIR MOUTHS SHUT ABOUT YOU GUYS.

BUT FOR NOW...
...I DON'T REALLY HAVE MUCH CHOICE IN THE MATTER.
I DON'T KNOW...

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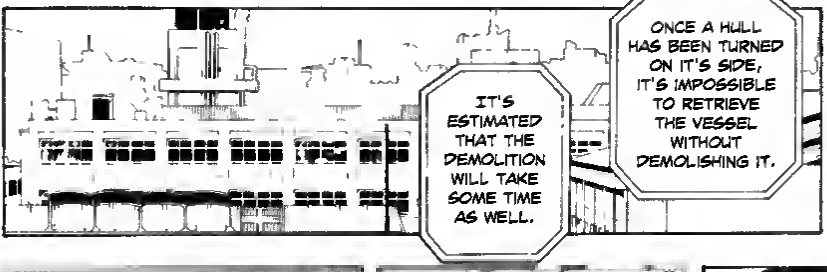
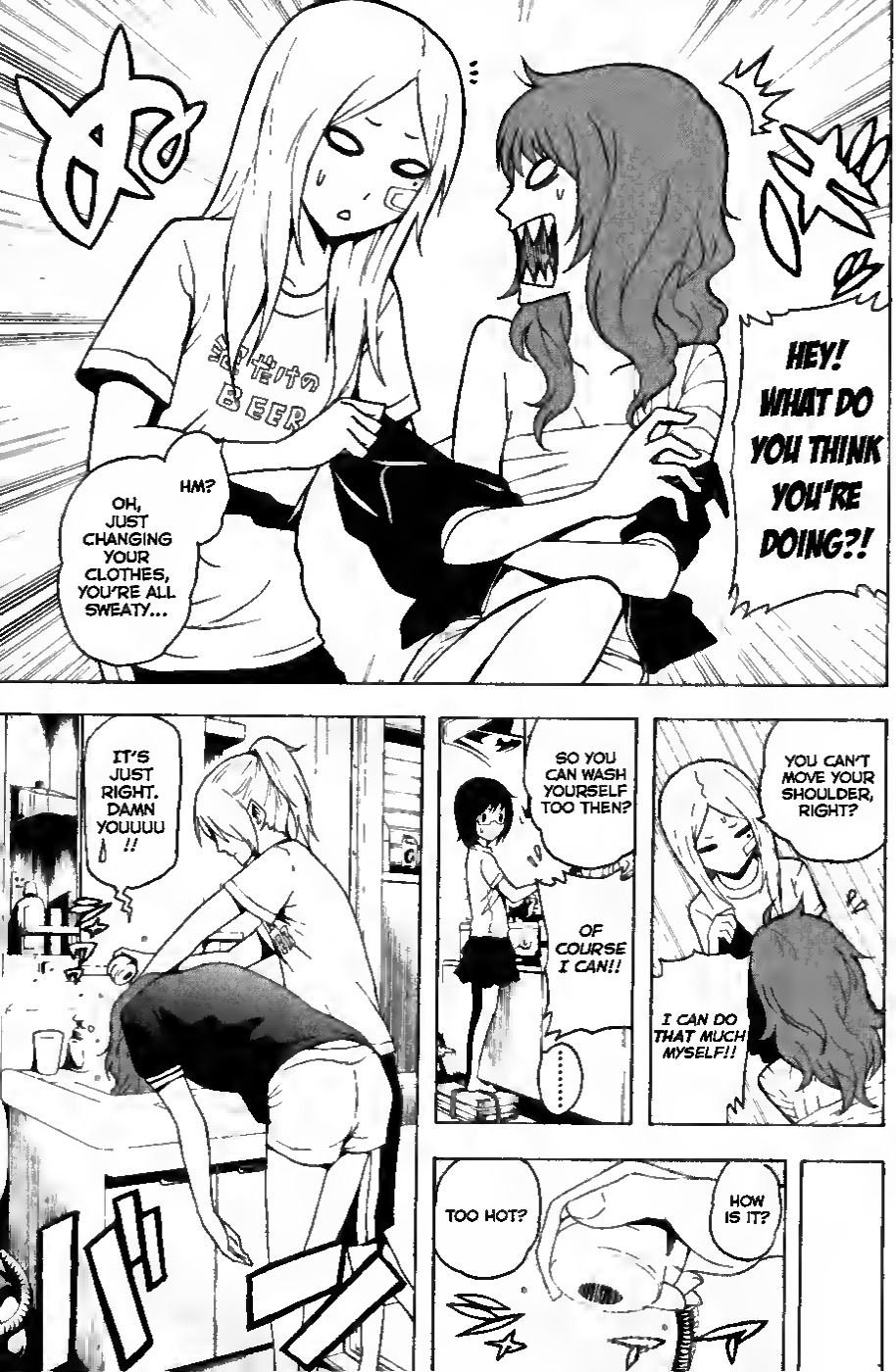
...FURTHER INCREASING THE NUMBER OF VICTIMS.
...THE EXPLOSION WOULD HAVE BLOWN AWAY EVERYTHING IN ITS VICINITY...
IF THE VESSEL HAD BEEN CARRYING OIL INSTEAD OF FREIGHT ...

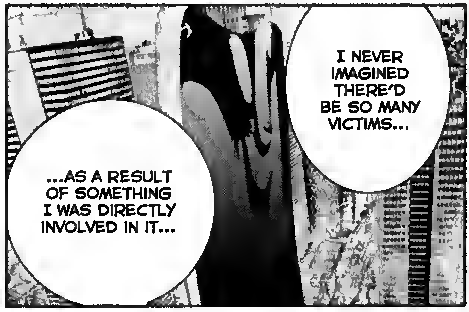

IT'S ESTIMATED THAT THE DEMOLITION WILL TAKE SOME TIME AS WELL.
ONCE A HULL HAS BEEN TURNED ON IT'S SIDE, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO RETRIEVE THE VESSEL WITHOUT DEMOLISHING IT.

ACK!
LOOK AT HOW DIRTY HER UNIFORM IS! THERE ARE EVEN HOLES IN HER SOCKS!!
HEY! IT'S RINKA! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, IT'S SUMMER VACATION!
MAKE-UPS...
WE KNOW YOU'RE NOT IN A CLUB, YOU'RE TOO POOR FOR THAT!
I SKIPPED ON THE DAY OF THE TEST ...
WASN'T THAT CRAZY? THAT THING IN SHINJUKU!
HEY, DID YOU SEE THAT THOUGH?
DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT WHOLE SUPER POWERS THING?
IT CAN'T BE REAL THOUGH, RIGHT?
...ISN'T THAT, LIKE SCARY?
ALL THOSE PEOPLE DIED AND STUFF...
THERE'S EVEN PICTURES OF THE VICTIMS ONLINE!

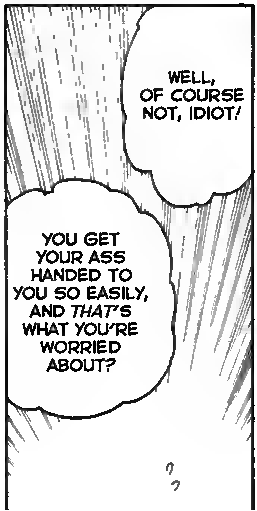
RINKA.
ARE NOODLES OKAY FOR LUNCH AGAIN TODAY?
PEH!
OKAY.
IT'S ALREADY BOILING.
THANKS.
AHH~ THIS SUCKS ...
I'VE ONLY GOT ONE UNIFORM... WHAT AM I GOING TO DO...
...WHEN SCHOOL STARTS UP AGAIN ...
BEE
STOP BEING SO WISHY-WASHY. IT'S TOO HOT FOR THAT!
WHY THE HELL IS THE AIR CONDITIONER BROKEN ANYHOW!
I'M INJURED OVER HERE, YOU KNOW!


HEY! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
HM?
OH, JUST CHANGING YOUR CLOTHES, YOU'RE ALL SWEATY...
YOU CAN'T MOVE YOUR SHOULDER, RIGHT?
I CAN DO THAT MUCH MYSELF!!
SO YOU CAN WASH YOURSELF TOO THEN?
OF COURSE I CAN!!
IT'S JUST RIGHT. DAMN YOUUUU !!
HOW IS IT?
TOO HOT?

I'VE DONE NOTHING BUT GET MY ASS HANDED TO ME...
...AND THEN I GET SAVED BY YOU...
GRR... THIS IS FREAKING PATHETIC.


I NEVER IMAGINED THERE'D BE SO MANY VICTIMS...
...AS A RESULT OF SOMETHING I WAS DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN IT...

.....
I WAS BEING NAIVE AS WELL.

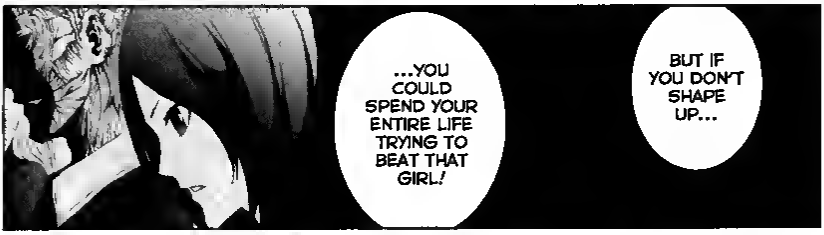

WELL, OF COURSE NOT, IDIOT!
YOU GET YOUR ASS HANDED TO YOU SO EASILY, AND *THAT'S* WHAT YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT?

THERE'S NO WAY I'D EVER BE ABLE...
...TO COMPENSATE FOR SO MANY ...

IT'S THAT SIDE OF YOU THAT'S BRINGING YOU DOWN, YOU KNOW.
YOU CAN BE STRONG IF YOU REALLY PUT YOUR MIND TO IT.
BUT YOU ALWAYS SHUT OUT ANY NEGATIVE EMOTIONS LIKE ANGER OR HATRED...
.....
I CAN TELL BECAUSE I COME FROM A FAMILY OF FIGHTERS.
YOU ACTUALLY DON'T LIKE TO FIGHT, DO YOU?
EVEN IF WE BROKE YOU OF THOSE FEELINGS OF YOURS...
...YOU'D STILL ALWAYS TRY TO AVOID A FIGHT IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.

I'M ALWAYS THROWN INTO THE BACKGROUND CUZ OF YOU.
THAT'S ALL YOUR FAULT THOUGH.
IF YOU DON'T WANNA BRAWL, THEN STOP JUMPING IN FRONT ALREADY!
ハッチャ
パチャ

ISN'T THAT HOW IT NORMALLY IS?
WHAT, DO YOU GET EXCITED OR SOMETHING?
ハッチャ
AL-THOUGH I'M A LITTLE OUT OF PRACTICE LATELY ...
SURE DO.


...YOU COULD SPEND YOUR ENTIRE LIFE TRYING TO BEAT THAT GIRL!
BUT IF YOU DON'T SHAPE UP...

WHY WERE THEY EVEN OPEN ...
OW!! YOU GOT SHAMPOO IN MY EYE !!
.....

THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO.
JUST GIVE UP.
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO MAKE YOU STOP...
PROF-ESSOR ...

KYOUTAROU
...
DO YOU KNOW HOW WE GOT OUR WORD 'TERROR'?
IT CAME FROM GERMAN...
...MEANING SOMETING ALONG THE LINES OF 'FEAR'
...
OF THE PEOPLE WHO WERE TRAMPLED BY OVERWHELMING MILITARY FORCE...
...A SMALL NUMBER OF THEM USE THIS TERROR OR 'FEAR'
...
...AS A MEANS OF OVERCOMING THEIR AOVERSARIES.
WHAT'S WITH YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN
...

I CAN'T EVEN COUNT THE NUMBER OF TIMES I RAN INTO 'TERROR' IN THAT COUNTRY ...
THEY WOULD SLIP IN AMONG THE NORMAL CITIZENS ...
YOU NEVER KNEW WHEN, WHERE OR WHO WAS GONNA DIE NEXT.
BOTH MY PARENTS, IN THIS PICTURE HERE...
...AS WELL AS YOUR MOTHER FELL VICTIM TO THEM.
I WAS LEFT ALL ALONE HERE THE ENTIRE TIME...
SOMETIMES I WONDER ...
...IF THE WHOLE THING ISN'T ALL JUST A BIG LIE...
EVERYDAY THE SAME AS THE NEXT...
...ONE AFTER THE OTHER ENDLESSLY REPEATING WITH NO REAL GOAL IN SIGHT.
LIKE TIME HAD STOPPED AND WE'D FALLEN OFF SOMEWHERE ALONG THE LINE...

WE'RE THE EXACT SAME AGE ...
...YET IT SEEMS LIKE...
...YOU'RE LEAVING ME BEHIND...
LIKE HOW?
...YOU'RE STILL ON TRACK, CHANGING SLOWLY BUT SURELY.
BUT I THINK...
HOW SHOULD I PUT IT...
YOU SEEM MORE GROWN UP.

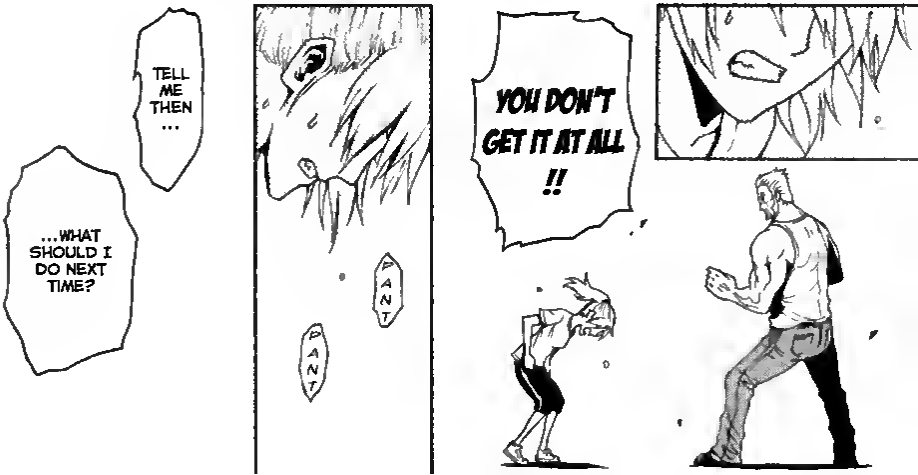
ARE WE REALLY IN A POSITION TO BE BELIEVING IN THINGS LIKE ESP AND THE LIKE?
EVEN WITHOUT HIS DEMANDS, SHOULD WE REGARD THE TANKER AS AN ACT OF TERRORISM?
HOWEVER, TO BE ABLE TO SUSPEND A SHIP IN THE AIR LIKE THAT...
THE IDENTITY OF THE MAN IN THE IMAGE IS STILL UNKNOWN AS WELL.
IF THIS ESP REALLY DOES EXIST ...IT WILL BECOME A REAL PROBLEM FOR OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE.
BWAHHH!
HELLO THERE ...
LIKE I KNOW!
SHE LEFT WITH MY PRINCE AWHILE BACK.
WHERE'S RINKA AND THE OTHERS?
SORRY... I GOT SOME STUFF FOR BARBEQUE AT THE STORE...
YOU KNOW... WHAT IF I WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF CHANGING OR SOMETHING?! SERIOUSLY!!

YEAH...
I'M OKAY...
...DON'T WORRY...
IF YOU START TO FEEL SCARED AT ALL, COME HOME RIGHT AWAY!
THANKS...
BUT I STILL...
...DON'T FEEL READY FOR THAT...

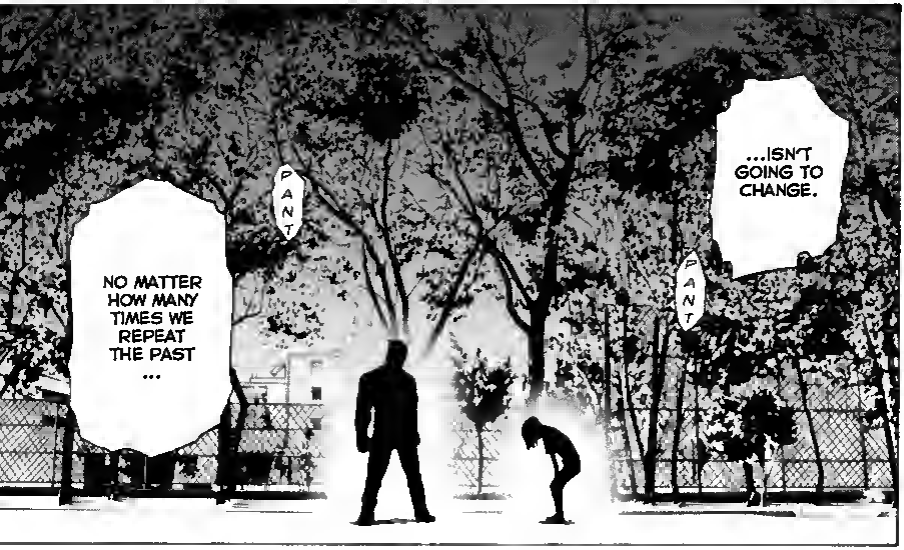
I WONDER HOW MANY YEARS IT'S BEEN...
PANT
PANT
...SINCE WE SPARRED LIKE THIS.
BUT YOU'RE AWFUL SERIOUS TODAY...
NO, I'M NOT ...
THIS IS MY USUAL ...
THERE'S NO CONVICTION IN YOUR TECHNIQUE.
IT'S THAT SIDE OF YOU THAT'S BRINGING YOU DOWN, YOU KNOW.
BUT YOU ALWAYS SHUT OUT ANY NEGATIVE EMOTIONS, LIKE ANGER OR HATRED ...
WHAT THE HELL GOOD...
...IS FEELING SPURNED GOING TO DO.
IT WON'T CHANGE A DAMN THING.

AT THE END OF THE DAY, I'M JUST YOUR AVERAGE HIGH SCHOOL GIRL.
THERE ARE LIMITS TO WHAT I CAN DO.

THEY'RE THE ONES THAT NEED TO PAY.
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT THOUGH.
I KNOW...


TELL ME THEN ...
...WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT TIME?
PANT
PANT
YOU DON'T GET IT AT ALL !!

THE FACT THAT I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING...


...ISN'T GOING TO CHANGE.
PANT
PANT
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES WE REPEAT THE PAST ...

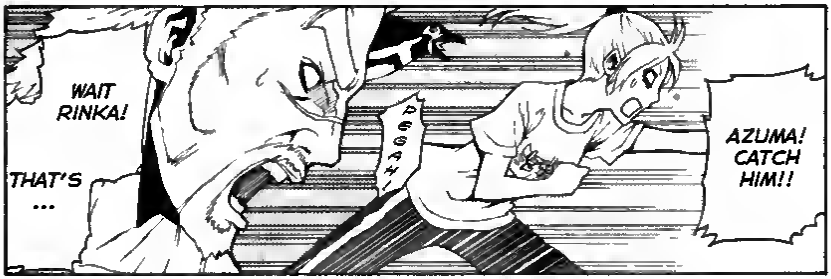
WHO IS IT ..?!

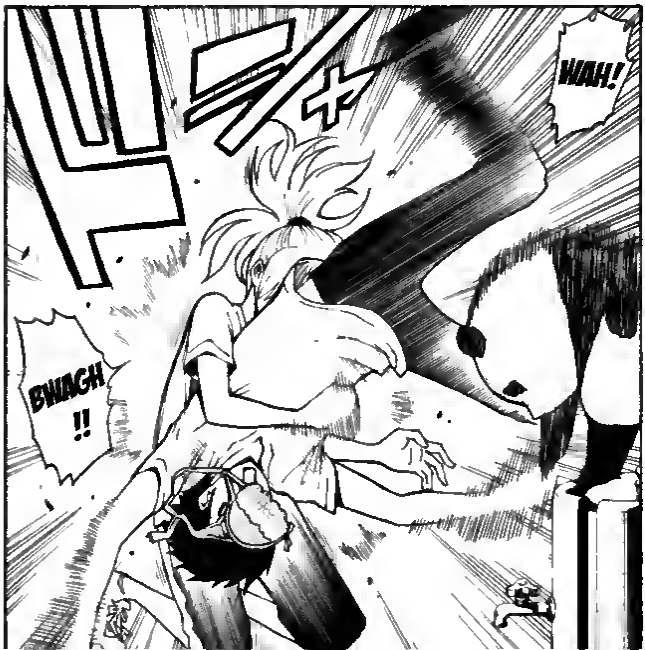
YOU'D HAVE IT SO EASY.
TOO BAD YOU CAN'T JUST TURN A BLIND EYE.
!!

WHA!?
...IT ATTACKED US?!
HE'S FAST!
IS HE ONE OF THEIRS?!
GWAAH!!
HUH...
HO HO HO!!

WAGH !!
WITH THAT TINY BODY?!
HE THREW ME?!
KWEH!
RINKA!!
GIRLS ARE SO BIG THESE DAYS!
HO HO HO~

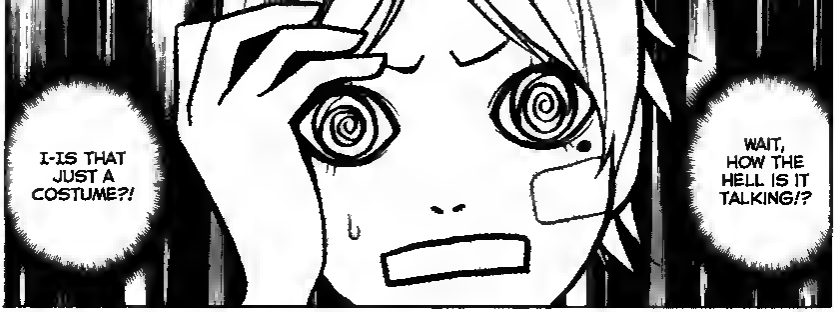
HO?
RINKA!
HEY, THAT'S MINE!
A PANDA ?!

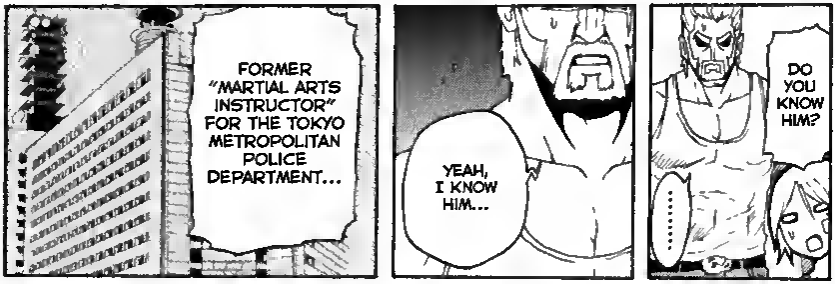

WAIT RINKA!
THAT'S ...
PEGAH!
AZUMA! CATCH HIM!!


WAH!!
BWAGH !!

パッ

GUDEH!!
レベル3
HO~ HO HO !!
AND HE'S EVEN SMALLER THAN I AM!
THAT PANDA IS... AMAZING!
WHY HAVE YOU COME ...
MASTER ..!
AND YOUR DAUGHTER...
...CAN'T EVEN SEE WHAT'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF HER FACE.
BEER
HO HO!
FULL OF OPENINGS LIKE ALWAYS, I SEE. URUSHIBA!


I-IS THAT JUST A COSTUME?!
WAIT, HOW THE HELL IS IT TALKING!?

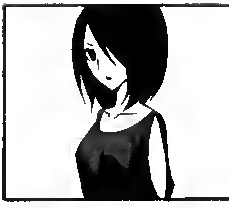

FORMER "MARTIAL ARTS INSTRUCTOR" FOR THE TOKYO METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT...
YEAH, I KNOW HIM...
DO YOU KNOW HIM?
.....

MASTER YODA-NI...
ナデ…
...MY TEACHER!

DOES IT STILL HURT ..?
A PALTRY THING LIKE THIS IS NOTHING...
...IN COMPARISON TO...
...THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT WE CAUSED TO DIE.

YOU'RE NOT REGRETTING ...
...CHOOSING ME, ARE YOU?
OUR PLANS ARE PROGRESSING SUPERBLY, ALL THANKS TO YOUR HELP...

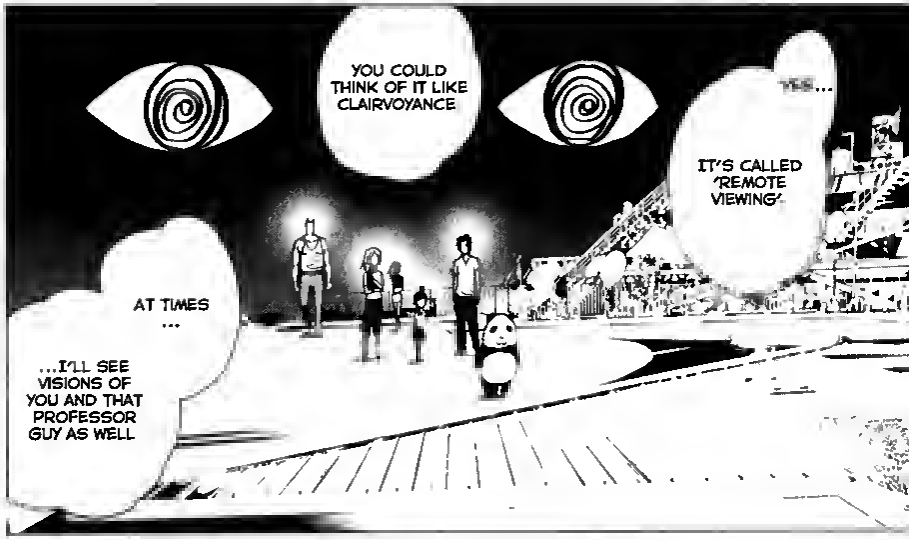
UNTHINK-ABLE...



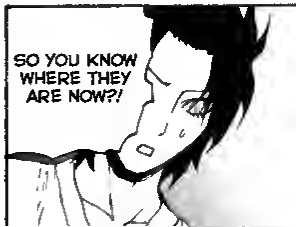
I WILL NEVER...
...LEAVE YOUR SIDE.

WE'VE NOTHING LEFT NOW ...
...BUT TO WAIT FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE SKY TREE.
I SEE...
OUR PARADISE IS NEAR...

...ESP TOO?!
YOU HAVE...

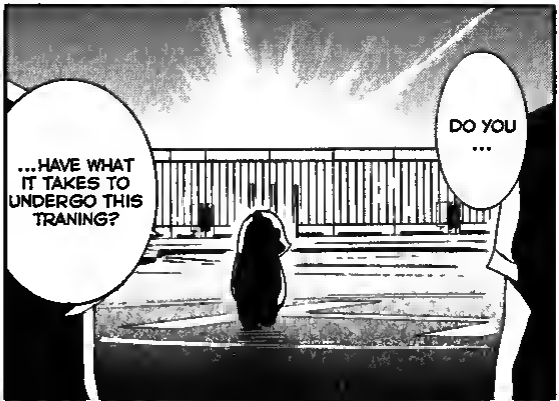

YOU COULD THINK OF IT LIKE CLAIRVOYANCE
IT'S CALLED 'REMOTE VIEWING'
AT TIMES ...
...I'LL SEE VISIONS OF YOU AND THAT PROFESSOR GUY AS WELL

IT IS DIFFICULT TO CONTROL...
SADLY, THAT I DO NOT.

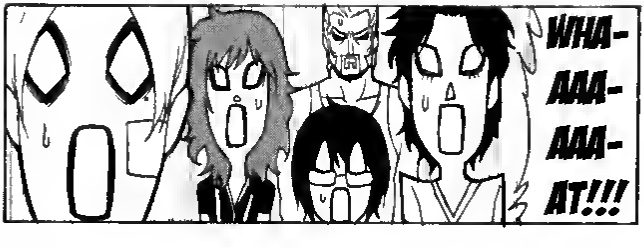

SO YOU KNOW WHERE THEY ARE NOW?!

THIS DREAD WON'T DISAPPEAR NO MATTER HOW I AVERT MY EYES...

BUT THAT'S NO REASON TO RUN AWAY FROM IT EITHER.



THE REAL FIGHT... STARTS NOW.
THIS CITY NEEDS IT'S HEROES...
WHY AM I HERE AGAIN?
...MORE NOW THAN IT EVER HAS BEFORE.

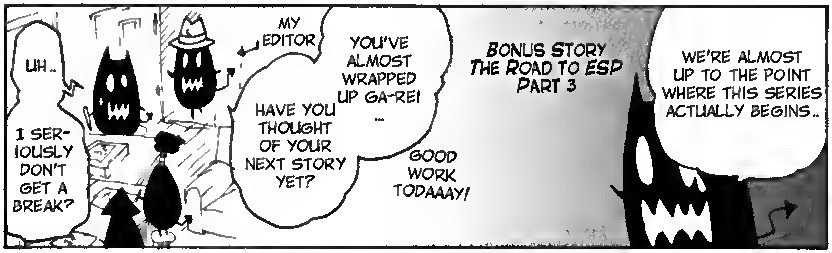


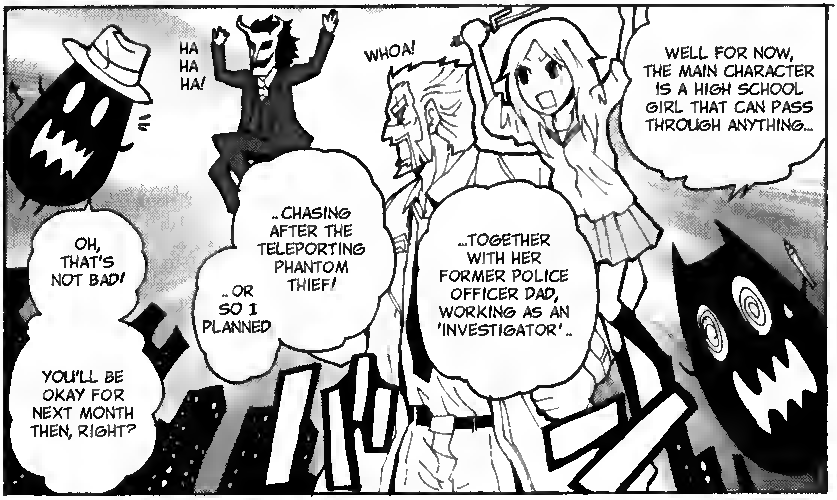
TOGETHER WITH OUR NEW COMRADE...

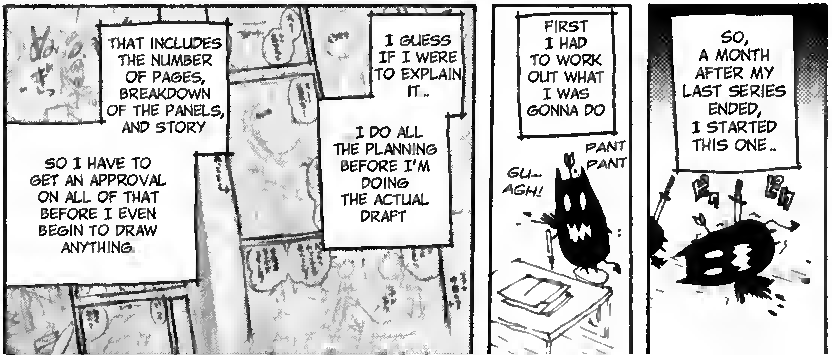
SCENE 13 /// END

to be continued.....

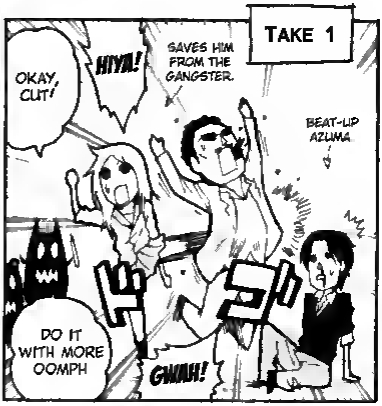
..BUT IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOUR AMAZING SUPPORT!
I WAS A LITTLE UNSURE IF WE'D MAKE IT THIS FAR ..
ESP IS ALREADY ON IT'S 3RD VOLUME..
HEY, SEGAWA HERE!


UH..
I SERIOUSLY DON'T GET A BREAK?
MY EDITOR
HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF YOUR NEXT STORY YET?
YOU'VE ALMOST WRAPPED UP GA-RE! ..
GOOD WORK TODAAAY!
BONUS STORY THE ROAD TO ESP PART 3
WE'RE ALMOST UP TO THE POINT WHERE THIS SERIES ACTUALLY BEGINS..

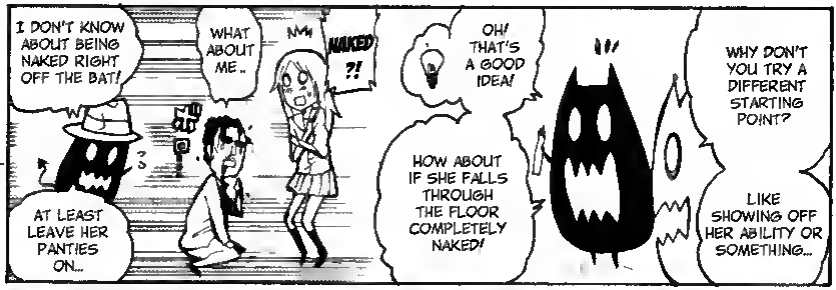

HA HA HA!
WHOA!
WELL FOR NOW, THE MAIN CHARACTER IS A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL THAT CAN PASS THROUGH ANYTHING..
OH, THAT'S NOT BAD!
..CHASING AFTER THE TELEPORTING PHANTOM THIEF!
..OR SO I PLANNED
...TOGETHER WITH HER FORMER POLICE OFFICER DAD, WORKING AS AN 'INVESTIGATOR'..
YOU'LL BE OKAY FOR NEXT MONTH THEN, RIGHT?


WELL, AT LEAST IN MY EXPERIENCE.
THAT INCLUDES THE NUMBER OF PAGES, BREAKDOWN OF THE PANELS, AND STORY
SO I HAVE TO GET AN APPROVAL ON ALL OF THAT BEFORE I EVEN BEGIN TO DRAW ANYTHING.
I GUESS IF I WERE TO EXPLAIN IT..
I DO ALL THE PLANNING BEFORE I'M DOING THE ACTUAL DRAFT
FIRST I HAD TO WORK OUT WHAT I WAS GONNA DO
PANT PANT
GU-AGH!
SO, A MONTH AFTER MY LAST SERIES ENDED, I STARTED THIS ONE..

AZUMA
GANGSTER
RINKA
I'M SUPPOSED TO BEAT UP A GANGSTER?
FIRST, WE HAVE THE TWO YOUNGSTERS MEET.
OKAY THIS IS HOW THE FIRST PART BEGINS
WHAT GOES ON IN MY HEAD WHILE I'M DOING THIS...



YOU'RE WRITING FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL-ERS!


I DON'T KNOW ABOUT BEING NAKED RIGHT OFF THE BAT!
WHAT ABOUT ME..
NAKED?!
AT LEAST LEAVE HER PANTIES ON...
OH! THAT'S A GOOD IDEA!
HOW ABOUT IF SHE FALLS THROUGH THE FLOOR COMPLETELY NAKED!
WHY DON'T YOU TRY A DIFFERENT STARTING POINT?
LIKE SHOWING OFF HER ABILITY OR SOMETHING...

(STAFF)
☆BATTLE PERSONNEL☆
UESUGI RIO
UORI MORI
WATANABE MATSUNAGA
MANY THANKS!
I'LL GET YOU!!!
THE CHARACTERS TEND TO THROW LITTLE FITS AT TIMES.
SORRY. THAT PART DIDN'T MAKE IT THROUGH.
UM... WASN'T I SUPPOSED TO BE A DETECTIVE OR SOME-THING?
I SEEM TO BE JUST ANOTHER UNEMPLOYED OLD MAN HERE.

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その真意とは――!?

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